



NEWS FROM THE WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

# The Coupler

June 2011



## From the Dean...

Dear AGO Friends and Colleagues,

AGO and AAM and OHS, OH MY!

Like the birds returning from the south earlier in the spring, convention time has returned to the land of the church organist. So as we draw closer to the end of our respective musical seasons and anticipate quieter summer months and fewer (if any choir rehearsals), professional and denominational conventions abound – great opportunities for enrichment and wonderful social occasions. Like some of you, I must confess to be a bit “convention weary”, after having attended AGO regional and national conventions every summer since 1986 and having had a major hand (like many of my DC colleagues) in the planning and execution of the national convention here last summer. But I DO hope that you will consider attending the Harrisburg AGO Region III convention and support the fine program they have created. If you’ve missed all the prior e-mails, the website gives all the info: [www.harrisburgago.com/RegionalConvention2011](http://www.harrisburgago.com/RegionalConvention2011).

If you’re not able to venture far from home during the last week of June, DO consider attending the OHS national convention which will be held here in DC from June 25-29 - which is where I will be. The program is remarkable (and includes “highlight recitals” by Thomas Murray and John Weaver, among others) and features a number of organ and venues which were not featured at the 2010 convention. For more info visit [www.organsociety.org/2011/welcome](http://www.organsociety.org/2011/welcome).

Enjoy a fruitful and exciting start to the summer!!

---

## AGO Certification Exams

The DC chapter was pleased to oversee the CAGO exam (part II) to Joann Moorer (assistant organist of Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church), and the AAGO exams to Rafael Scarfullery (Charlottesville, VA), Diana Kostova (Baltimore), and Robert Gundlach (Baltimore).

## Membership Renewal

It is THAT TIME of year again – DC AGO membership renewal for the 2011-2012 season! What exactly does your membership fee do for you? What do you get? Aside from your monthly subscription to The American Organist magazine, DC AGO members get to experience a vibrant series of musical program, opportunities to socialize (accompanied by wine and good food) with your colleagues, the opportunity to have the concert programs at your place of worship or business publicized through the monthly Coupler and the chapter website, and chances for professional enrichment and development. Serious effort has been made this past year, and as we look to this upcoming season, to boost programming and we have been pleased with the increased turnout to AGO events. Let's make this trend continue! Renew your membership NOW!! Make your check payable to DC Chapter AGO, and mail completed form and check to the DC AGO registrar: Arthur H. Roach, 1749B S Hayes St, Arlington VA 22202-2797

## 2011-2012 Executive Board Officers voted in at Annual Meeting

Those who attended the May 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting at St. Paul's, K Street, elected the following executive board members for 2012 (new board members' names are in bold):

Dean: Charles Miller (serving his second year of a two year term)  
Sub Dean: Nicholas Russotto (serving his second year of a two year term)  
Secretary: Matthew McGarvey (former DC AGO member who returned to the area)  
Treasurer: Arthur Roach (serving his second year of a two year term)  
Registrar: Arthur Roach (serving his second year of a two year term)  
Auditor: Samuel Carabetta (Organist/Choirmaster of St. John's Episcopal, Georgetown)  
Historian: Irving Lawless (fulfilling an indefinite term)  
Class of 2012: John Bradford Bohl  
Class of 2013: Kimberly Hess  
Class of 2014: Irvin Peterson

Gratitude is expressed for these three new board members for their willingness to serve the chapter and provide new direction and ideas. Gratitude is also expressed to outgoing board members Patricia Henry (secretary), David Hearn (auditor) and Tom Cowan (auditor) for their wonderful work over the past several years.

## DC AGO Chaplain to step down

Our good friend, colleague, and chaplain of the DC AGO chapter, the Rev. Dean McDonald, will step down for her chaplaincy this summer. Her husband has accepted the position of president of San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, CA and they will be moving north of San Francisco at the beginning of July.

Dean McDonald has served as the DC AGO Chaplain since 2005 and has graciously offered her support, leadership at convocations and other guild services, and contributed to the newsletter throughout the years.

Thank you, Dean, for all that you have done for the guild and for being a remarkable clergy-advocate for this chapter and for the organist/church music profession!!

## OFFICIAL GUIDE TO YOUR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHAPTER

- TO EDIT, ADD OR DELETE YOUR ADDRESS / CONTACT INFORMATION  
Contact registrar Arthur Roach at [mail.agodc@gmail.com](mailto:mail.agodc@gmail.com) or 703-685-5275
- TO GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT A CHAPTER PROGRAM EVENT  
Contact sub-dean Nick Russotto at [nrussotto@gmail.com](mailto:nrussotto@gmail.com) or 860-930-0948 OR  
dean Charles Miller at [cmiller@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cmiller@nationalcitycc.org) or 202-797-0103
- TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE OR INFORMATION OR LIST A CONCERT EVENT IN THE COUPLER NEWSLETTER  
Contact newsletter editor John Bohl at [johnbbohl@yahoo.com](mailto:johnbbohl@yahoo.com) (deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month)
- TO ADD TO, EDIT, OR REMOVE A LISTING FROM THE SUBSTITUTES LIST  
Contact Arthur Roach at [mail.agodc@gmail.com](mailto:mail.agodc@gmail.com) or 703-685-5275
- TO FIND A SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST OR CHOIR DIRECTOR  
Visit the website at [www.dicago.org](http://www.dicago.org)
- TO ASK A QUESTION OR VOICE A CONCERN OR SUGGESTION ABOUT THE WEBSITE  
Contact webmaster Rick Berg at [flcorg@comcast.net](mailto:flcorg@comcast.net) or 703-920-2895 OR  
dean Charles Miller at [cmiller@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cmiller@nationalcitycc.org) or 202-797-0103
- TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS ABOUT FUTURE EVENT PROGRAMMING IDEAS  
Contact sub-dean Nick Russotto at [nrussotto@gmail.com](mailto:nrussotto@gmail.com) or 860-930-0948
- TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AGO EXAMS AND TAKING AN EXAM  
Contact dean Charles Miller at [cmiller@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cmiller@nationalcitycc.org) or 202-797-0103
- TO INTRODUCE A FRIEND TO THE CHAPTER OR FOR OTHER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION  
Contact registrar Arthur Roach at [mail.agodc@gmail.com](mailto:mail.agodc@gmail.com) or 703-685-5275
- TO INQUIRE ABOUT OR TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE DC AGO ARCHIVES  
Contact historian Irving Lawless at [kcorgancurator@aol.com](mailto:kcorgancurator@aol.com) or 301-991-1684
- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHAPTER WEBSITE  
[www.dicago.org](http://www.dicago.org)

Need a substitute?

Contact...

Richard Saladini

703-655-2704

[rsaladini@gmail.com](mailto:rsaladini@gmail.com)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To have your event publicized in The Couper, please send it to John Bohl (CouplerEditor@yahoo.com) and include the following: date, time, what, who, where and contact information. If you have descriptive information and/or an image, send that along as well. NOTE: We are only able to list information for programs that occur two months in advance.

Sunday, June 5 at 5 p.m.

Hymn Festival with Dr. Gerre Hancock at Christ Church, 118 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA. Dr. Hancock will lead a Hymn Festival that includes the choirs of Christ Church, Alexandria, St. Paul's, Alexandria, St. Mary's, Arlington and Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda. A festive reception will follow the service. For more information, [jabel@historicchristchurch.org](mailto:jabel@historicchristchurch.org) or 703-778-4929.



Monday, June 6 at 8:00pm

Bradley Hunter Welch in Recital

Cathedral of St. Thomas More, 3901 Cathedral Lane (just off of Route 50), Arlington, VA

Bradley Hunter Welch, the 2003 First Place winner of the Dallas International Organ Competition, will offer a not-to-miss recital program as the guild's season closing event. Please join us to hear one of the country's finest virtuoso organists!

J. S. Bach—Prelude and Fugue in D Major, BWV 532

Max Drischner—Variations on "O laufet, ihr Hirten"

Two Movements from L'Ascension - Olivier Messiaen

Serene Alleluias and Outbursts of Joy

Organ Hymn - Raymond Haan

Allegro deciso from Evocation (Poeme Symphonique) - Marcel Dupré

Jig for the Feet ("Totentanz") from Organbook III - William Albright

"Come, Sweetest Death, Come, Blessed Rest" - J.S. Bach/Virgil Fox

Chorale Fantasy on Lobe den Herren (2010) - Aaron David Miller

Wednesday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Guest Choral Concert: Cathedral Church of the Advent Choir at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 2609 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22207, [www.stmarysarlington.org](http://www.stmarysarlington.org). 703-527-6800. The Advent Choir from Birmingham, Alabama, is an auditioned choir of volunteers and professionals directed by Dr. Stephen G. Schaeffer and accompanied by Charles Kennedy. They have traveled four times to England for cathedral residencies and have made six recordings. In addition to singing at St. Mary's, their East Coast Tour includes Atlanta, Winston-Salem, Chapel Hill, Washington National Cathedral and St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York City. A reception will follow the concert. Free parking is available at 26th and North Glebe Road. A festive reception will follow the hour long concert.

Friday, June 17 at 8 p.m.

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 1009 Stafford, Ave., Fredericksburg, Va 22401, Inaugural organ recital, III/49, Robert William Wallace Pipe Organs (2010), performed by Frederick Teardo, Assoc. Organist, Saint Thomas Church, New York. Free-will offering; reception following. Contact: David Mathers at [dmathers@stmaryfred.org](mailto:dmathers@stmaryfred.org) or 540-373-6491.

# POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Contact Don Frazier, [d\\_frazier1@msn.com](mailto:d_frazier1@msn.com) or 703-368-0936 for information on having your open position listed. Also, you will find AGO national job listings at [www.agohq.org/profession/indexjobs.html](http://www.agohq.org/profession/indexjobs.html).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
3/20/2011

DIRECTOR of MUSIC (Avail. June 1, 2011) St Stephen Martyr Catholic Church, 2436 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20037 Phone: 202-785-0982

To direct/accompany four choristers Avg. hours/wk: 10, II/10 Casavant, circa 1974

Salary commensurate with experience, training & duties "Small city parish is seeking a new part-time director of music. The parish is adjacent to George Washington University in Foggy Bottom. Candidate must possess training as an organist and have familiarity with Roman Catholic liturgy. Facility in choral direction is desirable. Duties include 3 weekend Masses and one rehearsal, as well as holy days. For weddings and funerals there is additional stipend." Contact church if interested.

4/4/2011

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

St Luke's Episcopal Church (Congregation size: 300), 1514 15<sup>th</sup> St NW, Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-667-4394 To direct one choir; avg. hours/wk: 20; annual salary: \$16.2k

"Duties and Required Skills: Teach and direct choir(s) with members of diverse age and ability. Participate in the development of weekly liturgy plans with the Rector. Provide musical support for both the 7 AM and 10 AM services. Coordinate rehearsals and curricula. Select accompanists for special services. Respond pastorally with Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited academic music program. Demonstrates an ability to work effectively with an all-volunteer choir and musicians. Must be able to communicate well with church members and the clergy. Knowledge of liturgical music and the Episcopal/Anglican liturgy. Must be a professional organist." Contact Peggy Hackett, [pawhackett@gmail.com](mailto:pawhackett@gmail.com)

MARYLAND

4/9/11

DIRECTOR of MUSIC / ORGANIST (Avail. Summer 2011, preferably June)

Potomac Presbyterian Church (Congrega. size: 490)

10301 River Rd, Potomac, MD 20854 Phone: 301-299-6007

To direct/accompany four choirs: adult, youth, children's, handbell, Avg. hours/wk: 30

2-manual Allen electronic organ; Jewett Boston piano 20 yrs old

Annual salary: commensurate with education/experience; independent contractor "We have a newly installed pastor and a congregation committed to Worship. We are seeking a musician to provide faith-based Christian leadership for PPC's Music Program. Successful candidate must be able to play a variety of music styles on organ or piano." Contact Wendy Kuhn at [ppcmusicsearch@hotmail.com](mailto:ppcmusicsearch@hotmail.com)

4/10/11

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR of MUSIC (Avail. Aug. 15, 2011)

Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church (Congrega. size: 200)

10123 Connecticut Ave, Kensington, MD 20895

To direct 1 adult choir and 1 adult handbell choir; avg. hours/wk: 12

III/29 Moller pipe organ; two pianos; 5-octave set of Schulmerich handbells

Annual salary: \$10k for 10-month (8/15 thru 6/15) position, plus 3 weeks' vacation per yr "WMPC has a vibrant music program that includes an adult choir with approximately 25 members and an adult handbell choir. The church offers a 3-manual pipe organ, a 5-octave set of Schulmerich handbells and two pianos in its sanctuary. The Assistant DoM's principal duty will be to conduct the adult sanctuary and handbell choirs. The Assistant DoM will be responsible for Thursday evening rehearsals of both groups and also for the choral and handbell music performed during the Sunday morning worship service. The Assistant DoM will also assume full responsibility for the Sunday service when the DoM is unavailable. The successful applicant will possess these skills and experience:

- Outstanding choral conducting skills with the ability and enthusiasm to ensure that the choir performs at a high level;
- Experience directing a handbell choir;

- Excellent keyboard skills and, preferably, the ability to play the organ proficiently;
- Ability to work comfortably with musicians of a various skill levels as well as with the church's professional staff;
- Background and experience in worship planning; and
- Desire to participate actively and creatively in the musical life of the congregation."

For more information, see the church website at [www.warnermemorial.org](http://www.warnermemorial.org). To apply, applicants are invited to send a resume and letter setting forth their relevant skills and experience to Ben Fulton at [fultonbs@comcast.net](mailto:fultonbs@comcast.net).

#### NORTHERN VIRGINIA

3/31/11

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST, Memorial Baptist Church, 3455 N. Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA 22207

Ann. salary: \$15-18k. Play for 11:00 Sunday Services (Hymns, some offertories, postludes) rehearse with and accompany vocalists and instrumentalists, play for Wednesday night choir rehearsals, and accompany choir. Play for two to three special music programs each year. Must be comfortable with classical, traditional, and contemporary worship styles, with excellent sight-reading, improvisation, and piano skills. Open score reading and lead-sheet reading is a plus. Four Sundays and four Wednesdays paid vacation. Under the direction of the Music Director. Please call Richard Buerkle at 703-538-7001 (church) or 571-294-4736 (cell).

4/14/11

#### ORGANIST

Great Falls UMC, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066 Phone: 703-759-3705

To provide organ and piano music at GF/UMC worship services and at scheduled rehearsals. At present, the required sessions include:

- One Sunday morning service of approximately one hour, which is currently scheduled at 10:00 a.m. Sunday each week;
- Up to one hour immediately preceding the Sunday morning service for warm-up and rehearsal for the Adult Choir, Children's Choir, or any other person or group performing during the service;
- One contemporary service of approximately one hour, which is currently scheduled Sundays at 5:00 p.m.;
- Up to 90 minutes of rehearsal time for the Adult Choir one evening per week;
- Up to one hour of rehearsal time for the Children's Choir one evening per week;
- Additional services, as requested by the Pastor or Music Director, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve (two services).

The number and times of services may change, such as the addition of a second Sunday morning service or changing the time or content of the contemporary service. Evening rehearsals for the Adult and Youth Choirs may be suspended during June, July and August at the discretion of the Music Director with no impact on the compensation of the Organist (Salary: negotiable). Although not required for the position, the Organist is strongly encouraged to provide musical support for weddings, funerals, and special services as requested by the Pastor, Worship Committee, Music Director or persons for whom such services are performed. In addition, the Organist is encouraged to assume or assist in the direction of the Youth Choir.

Please send resume to Rev. Nancy B. Childress, at [pastor.greatfallsumc@verizon.net](mailto:pastor.greatfallsumc@verizon.net)

4/15/11

#### MINISTER of MUSIC (Avail. Sept. 1, 2011)

Church of the Good Shepherd (Cong. size: 1500), 9350 Braddock Rd, Burke, VA 22015, 703-323-5400

To direct two adult choirs, a teen choir and two children's choirs, No. of staff supervised: 4, Avg. hours: 40 III/25 pipe organ, to be replaced by similar instrument in 2012. Annual salary: commensurate with AGO guidelines. Benefits, including paid vacation, continuing education, health insurance, sick leave, and retirement, to be determined. "The Church of the Good Shepherd is seeking a talented and experienced Minister of Music with outstanding interpersonal skills to build on our long tradition of excellence in music, and to offer visionary musical leadership that supports a dynamic worship experience. Our preference is for a person who will serve as choirmaster and primary organist. The church seeks a minister of music with at least 5 years' experience and a knowledge of, and respect for, Episcopal liturgy (1982 prayer book) and music in a variety of eras, styles, and genres for children, youth and adults."

To apply for the job, please provide a letter of interest, resume, and References by May 15. It can be e-mailed to [cogsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:cogsmusic@gmail.com), or mailed to Music Minister Search Committee at the Church. Please direct any questions to Michele Braithwaite, [mlbraithwaite@gtmail.com](mailto:mlbraithwaite@gtmail.com), Search Committee chair.

### REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Stephen M. Lott

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Major Stephen M. Lott, USAF Ret., upon his death the weekend of May 8, 2011. Steve planned and blocked worship services and major state funerals and other important worship events at Washington National Cathedral. He was also sacristan, acolyte master, sexton, chalice bearer, lay reader, and protector of the procession. Steve was a member of the Washington National Cathedral choir for 15 years and joined the Development Department in the mid 1980s as the director of records. He then became the assistant verger in 1992. Two years later he became the 7th Head Verger of the Cathedral, a position he held for 13 years before his retirement in 2007. In addition to his work at the Cathedral, he was a swim coach and lifeguard at St. Albans School. Most evenings, it was he who turned out the lights and locked the Cathedral doors. Those were just a few of the multitude of other duties and odd jobs which he did with great pride, reverent ceremony, and utmost dignity. Steve was a long-time member of our AGO Chapter and of RSCM America. He also was a fine pianist and organist and in fact gave more than a few public demonstrations of the cathedral organ when cathedral organists were not available. He was a dear friend, mentor, and a highly valued and respected member of the Washington National Cathedral community, a huge supporter of the music program at the Cathedral Schools, and an invaluable organizer of cathedral liturgies and concerts for many years, including the AGO's annual PipeSpectacular concerts.

The funeral service will be held at Washington National Cathedral on Tuesday, June 7 at 12 Noon.

## Acoustic Design Services

**Acoustical Design Collaborative, Ltd** specializes in ecclesiastical spaces where natural acoustics for music and unobtrusive amplified speech are essential for worship celebration. We have completed over 80 successful projects involving the following services:

**Acoustic Measurements**  
**Room Reverberation Enhancement**  
**Audio/Visual Systems Design**  
**Organ Space Planning**  
**Sound Isolation and Noise Control**

We strive to provide our clients with professional advice based on prudent design criteria, cost-effective solutions, clear concise recommendations, open communication, all delivered in a timely manner. Please contact us to see how we can provide "heavenly sounds" for your Sanctuary.

**ACOUSTICAL DESIGN  
COLLABORATIVE, LTD**  
7509 L'Hirondelle Club Road  
Ruxton, MD 21204-6418

410.821.5930  
www.akustx.com

nts@akustx.com

## Continuo Organ for Rent

- ◆ C-d<sup>7</sup> (51 notes) transposing keyboard
- ◆ A-329, 415, 440, 465 hz
- ◆ 8' Gedeckt – 4' flute – 2' open principal
- ◆ Mounted on a stage dolly for easy moving
- ◆ Blower self-contained – volume controlled by opening panels
- ◆ Equal temperament
- ◆ Unequal temperament tuning available
- ◆ Transport, setup and tuning included
- ◆ Perfect for chamber and choral music



Contact: David M. Storey, Inc.  
Pipe Organ Builders and Restorers  
Baltimore, MD  
410-889-3800 or DMS1518@aol.com

# American Guild of Organists

Washington, DC Chapter  
Officers and Committees, 2010-2011

Dean:	Charles Miller
Sub-Dean:	Nicholas Russotto
Treasurer:	Arthur H. Roach
Secretary:	Patricia Henry
Registrar:	Arthur Roach
Historian:	Irv Lawless
Auditor:	David Hearn and Tom Cowan
Members at Large	
Class of 2012	John Bohl
Class of 2013	Kimberly Ann Hess
Chaplain:	Rev. Dr. Dean MacDonald
Placement:	Donald Frazier
Coupler editor:	John Bohl
Webmaster:	Rick A. Berg
Scholarships:	Diane L. Heath

## Advertising

Looking for a great way to publicize your next program, event, etc. to a local, targeted audience? Consider DCAGO Email blasts. For a \$5.00 fee, Tom Cowan will see that your message is delivered to each DCAGO member. Contact tom at [tgcowan@aim.com](mailto:tgcowan@aim.com).

If you would like to advertise personal, for fee, services in The Coupler, send your information to the Editor and \$10.00 to the AGO Treasurer. Your ad will run for two consecutive issues. Questions: contact John Bohl at [CouplerEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:CouplerEditor@yahoo.com).

## TriChapter Mail List

Electronic format, ready to print. \$15/single chapter, \$35/complete TriChapter names & addresses. Contact Carol Guglielm, [cgug@loc.gov](mailto:cgug@loc.gov) or 301-699-8765. Checks payable to: TriChapter Committee, AGO. Mail to: Gerald Piercey, c/o Lewis and Hitchcock, Bacon Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705.