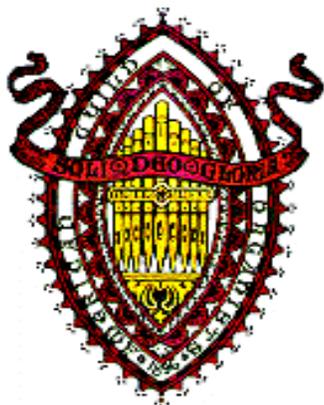


## American Guild of Organists - Harrisburg Chapter



Our mission is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.

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### Chapter Welcomes New Dean (Know Your Board Members)

By Mary Jane Nelson

As of the Installation ceremony following the May 14 Chapter Banquet, Shawn Gingrich has taken over the reins of the Harrisburg Chapter, after serving as sub-dean and program chairman following Melanie Moll's move to Texas. Shawn joined us in 1999 with his appointment as Minister of Music at First United Methodist Church in Hershey, and quickly became active in many chapter events which included hosting of a Saturday morning chapter workshop, and teaching one of the courses on using handbells creatively in worship.

His life has been music-filled from an early age. He grew up in Felton, PA in southern York County, studied piano since age 7, and began organ study at age 14. Attending Lebanon Valley College, he received a B.S. in Music Education and a B.M. in Sacred Music, studying organ with Pierce Getz. Shawn received his M.M. in Sacred Music from Westminster Choir College where he studied with Joan Lippincott.

At age 15 he played the organ at his home church, Winterstown United Methodist. He served St.

(Continued on page 2)

### National Convention News

By Mary Jane Nelson



Each AGO National Convention has a distinct flavor, depending on the site, the organizing committee and the musical events scheduled. I am a comelately to these grand reunions, having been at New York City, Denver and Seattle in past years. But Philadelphia has a flavor all its own, even if it was flavored with mighty "hot" seasoning – temperatures hovering around 100 degrees!

This 46<sup>th</sup> National Convention was Philadelphia's fourth one in AGO history, and the Philadelphia Chapter was celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, promising the 2,400 registrants a "party" and celebrating with "gifts" – so many that it was impossible to receive all that were offered!

We should have had a clue about what was in store when we opened our official Convention Packets to find a cardboard fan with a wooden stick... one like I remember from my childhood church pews...before air conditioning, that is. The fans were donated by the Albany, NY chapter. The chapter website address on the fan was <http://agony.bizland.com/convention>. Of course, the

(Continued on page 3)

**Chapter Welcomes New Dean** (Continued from page 1)

Luke's Episcopal Church in Lebanon from 1987 to 1991, and was Minister of Music at Emmanuel UCC in Hanover for six years. At Hershey, he currently has six singing choirs, four handbell choirs and three Sunday services. I was delighted to find out that he also enjoys solo handbell ringing -- one of the few of us who likes the challenge of that activity!

Our new chapter dean lives in Hummelstown with his wife, Laura, and has three children: Peter, age 3½; Sarah, age 1½; and Christian, age 1 month. We wish him well with the responsibilities of the office, his church work, and his growing family. Welcome, Shawn!

### Dean's Pipings

Recently, my wife and eldest son found Mr. Rogers talking about pipe organs on his PBS show *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*. The segment featured Allen Morrison, a concert organist who is undoubtedly familiar to many of you. I was able to view the end of this segment on video tape and really started thinking about how wonderful it is that Fred Rogers did this show to teach young children about the grandeur and beauty of the pipe organ. We always are hearing about how the pipe organ is falling by the wayside and how it is not promoted enough to young musicians. The guild has great resources for us on their national web page <www.ago.org> and I would love to see our chapter inspire some local children this year by sponsoring an encounter such as "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza." If you might be willing to work on a project such as this, please contact me. (583-1922)

*Shawn M. Dingrich*

### Networking Luncheons . . .

The next gathering will be held at 11:30 a.m. on **Wednesday, August 14** at the Bridges Café in the Radisson Hotel, Camp Hill. At the July luncheon, ten members (one is a new member) and guests visiting from Colorado and California held lively conversations that frequently echoed of the marvelous time had at the AGO National Convention last week in Philadelphia. Anyone planning to attend the luncheon in August should e-mail Doris Savage at dorsavage@aol.com or phone her at 697-4042 no later than Monday, August 12. Why not consider joining us this month?

### Membership Renewal 2002-2003

By Doris Savage

The membership renewal process is in full swing for the new year. Everyone should have received a membership renewal application with their May issue of *The Bombarde*. We currently have 65 memberships received. That's about half of the membership for last year. Congratulations to those of you who filed early.

To those of you who have not yet filed, please send your membership to Kathy Myers, our treasurer, ASAP. You can get an application on our Chapter's web site or by calling Doris Savage at 697-4042 or Carolyn Evens at 737-6027. Be sure to complete the bottom portion of the form to ensure that the chapter's membership records are accurate.

National Headquarters would like membership completed no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>. Please note that there has been an increase in the fee requested for this membership year. Reminder calls and notices will be sent this month if you have not already sent in your membership. Please try to save the Chapter the expense of contacting you.

There is a misnomer that you must have a music degree to join. That is not true and there are no application requirements. Please welcome all of your organist friends to become a member of our Chapter this year. See the application for the appropriate membership category.

#### Please welcome our new members:

Daniel Bruce from Palmyra  
Ellen Hunt from Camp Hill  
Milesta (Missy) Weidler from Palmyra  
Joseph Bashore from Halifax  
Joshua Silver from Hallstead  
Marilyn (Micki) Kautz from Camp Hill

**National Convention News***(Continued from page 1)*

agony represented AGO of NY. But many of the “fan club” during the week remarked about its irony. A very few of the musical venues were air conditioned, but most were not. It was impossible to keep giant electric fans turned on during concerts because of the noise factor. The good news is that we all survived, heard and witnessed many outstanding musical events.

The Opening Celebration was held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. We heard the St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, the Chestnut Brass Company, and organists Gerre Hancock and John Weaver. The presiding clergy who delivered the homily said that a crisis had been averted earlier that afternoon when suddenly there was a power outage. A call was made to PECO Energy stating that 2,400 organists were planning to gather in that Cathedral at 7:30 pm, and power was needed to run the organ and the air handling apparatus. That was one of the churches that DID have A/C. PECO was there in 10 minutes, and power was restored within the hour. How is that for clout? (Since PECO is one of the companies I work for at the Energy Association, I sent them a thank-you note the following week.)

Some of the other high points of this Convention I will describe, but I could not attend nearly all those I would have liked to hear. Mark Laubach, who led a Hymn Festival for the Harrisburg Chapter last November, was the teacher of two master classes for young people. The first class on Tuesday had five participants of high school or junior high age, one of whom was Kate Luley, a student member of our Chapter. Two of the boys had also been participants in our POE last summer, along with Kate. The second class on Saturday had four members of the Association for Young Organists (AYO) some of whom were a little older than the first class. The only girl in that group, a 10<sup>th</sup> grader I believe, had memorized the first movement of Bach’s *E-flat Trio Sonata!* I marveled in Mark Laubach’s techniques in critique of the

performance of these youth, how relaxed he was, and how he emphasized their good qualities while still pointing out what could be done better or in some other manner.

Three of the large concerts were held in the Chapel at Girard College (no A/C). The Philadelphia Orchestra, with Rossen Milanov conducting, endured the heat (without fanning like the rest of us) to accompany organ concertos by James David Christie, Craig Phillips and Diane Meredith Belcher. The second Girard Chapel concert was presented by organist Jane Parker-Smith, and the third featured *The Voices of Ascension Chorus and Orchestra* with Dennis Keene conducting, who premiered a commissioned 2002 choral work of Ruth Watson Henderson, another award winning choral composition by Carlyle Sharpe, and the Duruflé *Requiem* – all superbly composed, sung and played.

An early music renaissance band, *Piffaro*, performed several concerts and also participated in one of the worship experiences at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, providing the preludes, and accompanying many of the chants and choral portions of the mass. This group of five musicians used recorder, krumhorn, sackbut, shawm, bagpipe, dulcien, and various percussion instruments. Lisa Lonie, expert carillonneur, gave before-and-after carillon recitals with two of the Piffaro performances. We watched her on large screens, one inside the historic St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Whitemarsh, and one outside on the lawn.

A worship service at the Church of the Holy Communion featured the Bach Choir of

*(Continued on page 5)***Position Available****Organist/Choir Director, Highspire U.M. Church****170 Second Street, Highspire, PA****Contact: Annette Parthemore 939-4443**

*One service at 9:00AM and one weeknight rehearsal Adult Choir of 10-15 members Two-manual Moller Organ Yearly salary of \$6,000 Four weeks vacation*

## Area Events in The Arts

**Sunday, September 22, 2002—2:00 PM**

The Raleigh Ringers will perform a concert at Derry Presbyterian Church, 248 East Derry Road, Hershey. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, students are free. Call 533-9667 for information.



**Sunday, September 22, 2002—4:00 PM**

Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church, 300 E Simpson St, Mechanicsburg: Ellen and Ruth Hunt, Organ and Harp concert. (See below for more details)

**Saturday, October 5, 2002—5:30-10:30 PM**

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church Pipe Organ Benefit Dinner/Dance—West Shore County Club, Call (717) 737-0488 for more information.

**Sunday, October 13, 2002—4:00 PM**

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill: MAZAIKA! Two of Britain's rising stars in a dazzling program of vocal and instrumental music from around the world. Free-will offering.

**Sunday, October 20, 2002—4:00 PM**

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church, 101 North 23d Street, Camp Hill: Craig Cramer, Organist—University of Notre Dame (Indiana) A free-will offering will be received to support the church's Pipe Organ Fund and childcare will be provided. Call (717) 737-0488 for more information.



**Sunday, October 27, 2002—3:00 PM**

First United Methodist Church, 64 W Chocolate Ave, Hershey: Geoffrey Shoffstall, Organist—We are please to bring Geoff back to our area in recital to kick off our third annual concert series. Call (717) 533-9668 for more information. The concert is free and open to everyone, childcare will be provided.



## POE Interview-Part IV

By Carolyn Houck

The fourth and last Pipe Organ Encounter interview is with Brittany Jones. She is the daughter of Robert and Wanda Jones and has a sister Nikki who is 28. Brittany attends Central Dauphin East High School. She is a sophomore. Brittany is from Steelton and has lived in Pennsylvania all her life.



Brittany has taken organ lessons for five years from Jeri Blanch and violin for six years from Irene Palashewsky. Her newest endeavor is the mandolin which she studies with Try Engle. She participates in the orchestra and honor society at school.

I asked her what her hobbies were and she said she enjoys her computer. She also likes to ski and plays in a bluegrass band. Her future holds a degree in music. She isn't sure where or just what the degree will be in but she has a few years to decide that. All together the 6 students that I interviewed seemed to personify what is good in our youth of today. I congratulate all of them on their endeavors and say "keep it up."

## Organ and Harp Concert

We welcome Ellen Landis Hunt back to Harrisburg after more than twenty years. Ellen and her daughter, Ruth will present a concert of organ and harp music at Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church on September 22 at 4:00 PM. An organ and harp piece, *The Gift Of Peace* which was written for Ellen and Ruth will be included on the concert. A free will offering will be taken and their recently released CD will be available for purchase.

Ellen Hunt served at Market Square Presbyterian Church before her move to New England and also served a brief time at Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church. Presently Ellen is the director of music and organist at Middletown Presbyterian Church. Plan to attend this special music event!



National Convention News (Continued from page 3)

Bethlehem singing the prelude music, a cantata during the service, and various other musical portions of the liturgy, with orchestral accompaniment. They STOOD on risers for the whole service . . . no A/C here either.

At Irvine Auditorium of the University of Pennsylvania, the 162-rank Austin Organ was used by Richard Morris in two organ concertos, while Hector Olivera, on a versatile electronic console, played all the orchestral parts to accompany the concertos – everything from string ensembles, to wind ensembles, to tympani and cymbals were present to give quite a realistic orchestral sound....although I'm sure Olivera could have used a few more hands for this one!

I was also privileged to attend the workshop presented by Lynn Dobson of Dobson Organ Company, and Jeff Brillhart, one of the committee appointed to procure an organ builder and oversee the organ project in the Kimmel Center. This session revealed some insights as to the musical goals established by this organ committee, the process of developing the design to meet these goals and subsequently, how the building's design and engineering contributed to the evolution of the final plan. Following the workshop, Mr. Dobson offered to take all those interested on a tour of the Kimmel Center the next day. About 35 or more persons participated in that activity, guided by one of the Kimmel Center personnel, along with Lynn Dobson. We toured Perlman Recital Hall, Verizon Hall, the glassed-in roof garden, and even the organ chambers where the pedal bourdons are already in place. They had to be installed when there was still space to bring them into the hall. The organ façade is already in place and we learned some of the "inside information" about the compromising that went on between the organ builder and the architect on that piece of "art."

On July 4 there were two performances on the Wanamaker Organ by Peter Richard Conte at 8 pm and 10 pm to accommodate 1,000 or more at a sitting. The merchandise in the now-



**Organist Martin Jean, left, along with Lynn Dobson, organbuilder for the Kimmel Center**

(Continued on page 7)

### From the Editorial Board

By Kathy Myers

The newly formed Editorial Board had their first meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to MaryJane Nelson and Ruth Brommer for volunteering to serve and to Kathy Myers for chairing the committee. Special thanks to our Dean, Shawn Gingrich for serving as our Editor until we fill the vacant position.

The Editorial Board welcomes suggestions for articles or items of interest to enhance the newsletter and inform the chapter members of music related information. If you have a suggestion, please call Kathy Myers at 774-4465 or e-mail her at [kmyersx1@localnet.com](mailto:kmyersx1@localnet.com)

Articles for the newsletter are due the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please feel free to write something of interest. We will have a column for announcements of births, deaths, retirements, graduations, honorary moments, etc. Please provide this information for publication.

Did you know that you could receive your newsletter via e-mail each month and save the Chapter the expense of mailing it? Perhaps you would consider signing up for the electronic newsletter for one month to see how it works for you. We could still send a hard copy (if desired) and then be in touch to see if you would be willing to go solely electronic. Contact Shawn Gingrich at [fumcsmg@cplx.net](mailto:fumcsmg@cplx.net) if you wish to change. Also, each month the newsletter can be found on our web site at [www.harrisburgago.com](http://www.harrisburgago.com)

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash in Bank as of 05/15/2002	\$2,126.78
Total Receipts (+)	\$5,852.19
Less Total Disbursements (-)	\$4,055.95
Cash in Bank as of 07/15/2002	\$9,923.02
Cassel Scholarship Fund plus Investments	\$14,523.62

A look ahead to the next program year . . .

## LÓÓK at THIS!

The program committee has this preliminary information to share. Please mark your calendars now to reserve these dates for guild events:

September 16, 2002, 7:00PM— “Bring a friend” time for conversation and refreshments followed by a reading session of Advent and Christmas Music for choirs and organ. Church of the Good Shepherd, 3435 Trindle Road, Camp Hill. Clinicians will be Helen Anthony, David Binkley, and our host for the evening Tony Ciucci.

November 2, 2002, 9:00AM to Noon— “Workshop Sessions for organists” Zion Lutheran Church, 100 West Main Street, Hummeltown. Clinicians and Topics will be: “A Basic Approach to Hymn Playing” presented by Michael Shoemaker; “The Orgelbuchlein of Bach” presented by Sarah Thrush and “Wedding and Funeral Repertoire” presented by Tom Clark-Jones.

January 21, 2003, 7:30PM— “Member / Student Recital” Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill.

February 23, 2003, 7:30PM— “Lau on Lau” organ and choral repertoire of chapter member Robert Lau shared in an informal concert setting, Faith Presbyterian Church, 1801 Colonial Road, Harrisburg.

To be announced: “Philadelphia Organ Quartet in Concert” at the Forum in Harrisburg. Organists Rudy Lucente, Michael Stairs, Colin Howland and Peter Richard Conte. This ensemble will be unforgettable. More details will follow.

May 12, 2003— Annual Banquet and installation of officers, details to be announced.

### “Buzz word”

Did you notice the caption “Bring a friend” when you read about the September 16 program in the Summer 2002 issue of Bombarde? Think about those three words and then make an effort to bring a friend who is an organist to the event.



### HAGO Member Notes



Congratulations to **Shawn Gingrich** and wife Laura on the birth of their son, Christian Thomas on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Fellow Chapter member, **Samuel McVey** passed away on Friday, June 7, 2002. He was organist and choir director at the Epworth United Methodist Church in Harrisburg.

**Thomas Artman** – moved and transferred his membership to Alexandra, Virginia

Special thanks to **Don Golden** for preparing the newsletters for mailing all of last year.

Thanks to **Mary Jane Nelson** for faithfully submitting articles about our chapter to the national newsletter.

Congratulations to **Karen Appel** for retiring for the Attorney General’s Office after 32 years of service.

Congratulations to **Mark Cole** for graduating from Lebanon Valley College with his degree in performance. Mark has moved to Kansas City as of 07/03/02. He will be pursuing a Graduate degree in Organ Performance at the University of MO-Kansas City studying with John Ditto. He also has found a church job there.

Congratulations to former chapter member **Delight St. John-Brainerd** for successfully passing the AAGO exam in June, 2002.

### Harrisburg AGO in TAO

Have you seen the “news” about our chapter in the AGO Chapter News Column in *The American Organist*? Mary Jane Nelson has done a wonderful job providing information about the activities of our chapter for the national magazine. Check out the material and pictures provided in the Region III – Mid-Atlantic section. Here is what has appeared for the past few months . . .

**February** – Picture of Mark Laubach at Hymn festival. Article includes information about our October and November chapter programs.

**June** – Picture of Larry Pruett from the Columbia Organ Company demonstrating the basic working of a pipe organ. Article includes information about our January and February chapter programs.

**July** – Picture of chapter members Tom Notestine and Scott Flinchbaugh at the Zion Lutheran Church. Article includes information about our March chapter program.

National Convention News (Continued from page 5)



**Carolyn Evens, Sue Klinedinst and Barb Carpenter in the Shoe Department for Conte Concert.**

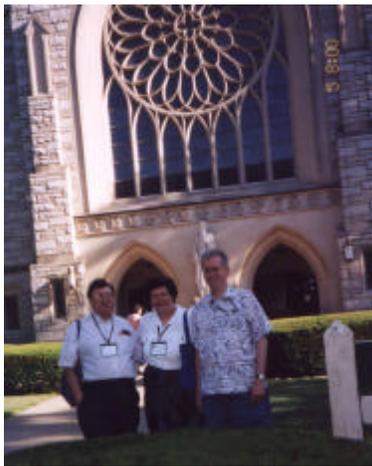
Lord-&-Taylor store was not moved, but chairs were set up in every available space around several of the store departments under the balcony which houses the organ. Four of

us Harrisburg people were directed to seats in the shoe department, where we could watch Mr. Conte on a large screen. Others were in the cosmetic department, the men's department, and several other areas. During the encore, which turned out to be *Stars and Stripes Forever*, a huge flag was unfurled in the space above the screen, complete with blinking red, white and blue lights on the balcony railings---truly a thrilling way to end the national holiday.

One morning was spent on a trip to Princeton, New Jersey, where we heard the New England Spiritual Ensemble in St. Paul's Church (A/C – YES!) and an Organ Recital by Alan Morrison in the Princeton University Chapel (No A/C, but the day was a little cooler).

Our own Shelly Moorman-Stahlman presented a workshop entitled "Twentieth-Century Iconoclast:

The Organ Works of Calvin Hampton." Hampton was organist and choirmaster at Calvary Episcopal in New York City, and one of the leading organists, composers and church musicians of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. She gave special attention to some of his lesser-



**Chuck Yocum, Barb Carpenter and David Binkley in front of St. Paul's, Princeton**

known concert and church works.

A very outstanding concert was performed by the *Toronto Children's Chorus* which has flourished for 23 years. Over 300 Toronto children perform with the choir annually, and are placed in Training Choirs I, II, and III or in the premier Toronto Children's Chorus. It offers young children, ages 2 to 17, a unique musical and educational experience through the learning and performance of fine repertoire. Praised for its purity of tone, exceptional diction and intonation, many composers, especially Canadian, have been inspired to create works and arrangements especially for this group. A workshop was also offered by its director, Jean Ashworth Bartle, but I was instead attending Mark Laubach's second master class. See, you can't do it all!

On the final day of the Convention, at a Saturday morning breakfast and business meeting, the new officers were introduced, the exiting officers were lauded and the food was delicious. The entertainment was by the Philadelphia Organ Quartet, which is comprised of Peter Richard Conte, Michael Stairs, Colin Howland and Rudolph Lucente, all of whom were assistants to the late Keith Chapman, legendary organist of the famed John Wanamaker Organ, who was killed in a private plane crash in 1989. Four Allen organs were used, one larger than the other three with all the "bells and whistles" of a theatre organ, with a large dose of humor and on-stage banter. Elaborate transcriptions, including customized parts and stop registrations for each player, are produced by the artists themselves. Alan Berlin of our Chapter is trying to find a date certain that this quartet can do a program in Harrisburg at the Forum. If this can be scheduled, it is one that not only organists will enjoy, but it will appeal to a wide range of the Central PA population.

It was widely advertised that the 2004 convention will be in Los Angeles, and I met an organist from Chicago who is on the committee for the National Convention of 2006 in that "windy city." Possibly we won't need our fans there, but hang onto them just in case! Please plan to attend a National Convention at least once in your life. Try it – you'll like it!

Harrisburg Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists  
Shawn Gingrich, Dean  
136 South Railroad Street  
Hummelstown PA 17036

**Please do not forward.  
Address correction requested.**

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**The Bombarde**  
published monthly by the  
Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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WWW.AGOHQ.ORG

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**Members—How did yours arrive?**

If this newsletter arrived and was not in an envelope along with your new member card that means we are still waiting to hear from you. Please renew memberships by August 31. See page 2 for details. (Those who receive *The Bombarde* electronically will receive member cards by mail by Aug 1)

**Submission to  
*The Bombarde***

The deadline for each edition of *The Bombarde* is the fifteenth of the month unless otherwise noted. Whenever possible, please submit your items in electronic format.

Deadline for the September 2002 newsletter is August 15th.

Please send all submissions to:  
Kathy Myers, editorial board  
chairperson  
1701 Creek Vista Drive  
New Cumberland PA 17070  
Telephone: 717-774-4465  
E-mail: kmyersx1@localnet.com

