

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.

Inside this issue:

<u>ARTICLE TOPIC</u>	<u>Pg</u>
Spring Banquet	1
Dean's Pippings	1
Fine Arts at First, Carlisle	2
Positions Available	2
Networking Luncheon	2
Treasurer's Report	2
Area Events in The Arts	3
<i>Jubilate!</i> in Hershey	3
Joe Utterbach in Area	4
Conventions	4
Know Your Collegues	5
Peace Church Organ	6
Pipes in Proximity	7
Chapter Notes-Directory Info	8
Membership Renewal	8
Reflection on Gail Archer	8

Spring Banquet — May 13th New Location — Please join us!

The Spring Banquet will be held at the **Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill** on May 13th. Please note the location has changed. Hardings' Restaurant announced that they have closed. We



scrambled to find another place in such short notice. Thanks to Alan Berlin for finding a caterer who is willing to prepare the meal and Tim Koch for making arrangements to hold the Banquet in his church.

"Simply the Best" Caterers will be preparing the meal for us. Choice of entrée will be: Stuffed Chicken Breast with sherry wine sauce or Crab stuffed Flounder with lemon dill sauce. Social Time is 6:00 PM with the meal offered at 6:30 PM

Due to the short notice, please continue to use the Banquet reservation in the April newsletter (or print it from the web site) to indicate your choice of entrée (chicken or fish) and make your reservations ASAP and no later than May 9th. The cost per person is \$25.00. Guests are welcome. Make your checks payable to the Harrisburg Chapter AGO and send to: Kathy Myers, 1701 Creek Vista Drive, New Cumberland, PA 17070.

Installation of Officers will follow the meal. Music will be provided by Harp soloist Sarah Thrush.

Join us in a delightful evening with colleagues and friends.

Directions to Trinity Lutheran: From Route 581, take the Route 15 exit north. Go past the Boscov's/ Camp Hill Mall and at the second traffic light turn right onto Chestnut Street. Travel east several blocks to the church on the left side of the street. There is a large parking lot for your convenience.

Dean's Pippings

Last month our deadline for applications for scholarship funds brought me nine letters from students and their teachers. We offered to give scholarships for a set of private lessons with Chapter-Member Dr. Shelly Moorman-Stahlman at Lebanon Valley College over the summer and scholarships for youth to attend a Pipe Organ Encounter this summer.

I think this response is encouraging to us organists for the future of our field. Our predicament is that we will not have enough funds to provide help to all of these students. Would you consider an extra gift to the Shenk Scholarship fund to help extend our scholarship offerings to more young musicians?

I am sure that all of you have received the attractive color booklet announcing *Pipes on the Potomac* Regional convention. If you plan to attend please let me know and we will print a list of those attending in next month's issue. I also would covet your writing on the event, as I am unable to attend. Please take generous notes and photographs to share with the Chapter.

Please remember to fill out your ballot and return it to Kathy Myers by May 9. I would love to see you all at the Spring Banquet which culminates our program year. Please see the details in the left column. Happy Spring!

Shawn M. Dingrich

Reminder



Please return your ballot by May 9th. As of April 19, only 9 have been received.

**Fine Arts at First Presents
Vespers with Bach**

Vespers with Bach will be presented by The Bach Choir and The Bach Players of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York City, for the *Fine Arts at First Series* at First Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 4 at 7:00PM.

The *Vespers with Bach* series was begun in 1968 at Holy Trinity, located a block from Lincoln Center. It is the first church in the United States to include the cantatas of J.S. Bach regularly in a Vespers or Evening Prayer worship setting on their appointed day. Cantata 4 *Christ lag in Todesbanden*, meaning *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Dark Bonds*, was written for the Easter season and is based on the Lutheran chorale of the same title. Presented in a historically authentic setting, vespers will also include motets, Gregorian chant, hymns sung by all, and a brief homily tied to the themes of Cantata 4 as was traditional in Bach's day.

The Bach Choir of Holy Trinity, directed by Richard Erickson, is the only professional choir in residence at a Lutheran Church in America. This chamber-sized ensemble brings a clarity and buoyancy to music which has been delighting the large and diverse crowds attending Vespers at Holy Trinity over the past 35 years. Featured bass soloist, Joe Chappel, is a favorite among New York audiences. Two recent CD releases, *Joining Hearts and Voices*

(Continued on page 3)

Networking Luncheons . . .

The next luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 7 at 11:30 a.m. at the Bridges Café in the Camp Hill Radisson (Note the date change). Please contact Doris Savage no later than Monday, May 5th by phone 697-4042 or e-mail <dlsavage@att.net> if you plan to attend. Please join us.

Positions Available

- Director of Music (Choir Director)
- Two Sunday morning Services, Avg. 160 in attendance.
- One Adult Choir, One Praise Team
- Church is mostly in need of an Adult Choir director for the 9AM service, but would increase the salary if the candidate would be the leader of the Praise Team for the 11:15 service.
- Salary: \$4,000-\$6,000

First Church of the Brethren, 219 Hummel Avenue, Harrisburg PA 17104, Galen Keeney 838-1150.



- Director of Music
- One Sunday Service (10:00AM, Summer at 9:00AM)
- One Adult Choir of 8 members
- Historic John Brown Tracker Organ (see the November issue or our web site for specification)
- 10 hours per week
- Music Budget: Music + \$500
- 4 weeks paid vacation
- Salary: Negotiable

St. Michael Lutheran, 118 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101.
Contact Ken Umbenhauer 1319 Green Street Harrisburg PA 17102.

- Organist
- Two Sunday Services, plus additional Holy Day services
- Accompany one weekday evening Adult Choir rehearsal
- 3-manual Allen organ (MDS-415) installed 1996
- Salary \$12,575 (will consider one Sunday Service at a lesser salary)

Centenary United Methodist Church, 1010 Orchard Drive, Steelton, PA 17113 Church office: 939-7700 or by e-mail at <kjhm@comcast.net> or <sdray725@aol.com>.



Volunteers Needed for River Boat Service

Christian Churches United sponsors a summer worship service on the Riverboat in Harrisburg each Sunday from June 1 to August 24 (except July 6). They are in need of volunteers who have a keyboard to join them to accompany the hymns for the 10:30AM service. Some Sundays are already covered so this is not an every week commitment. Other instrumental groups are welcome if appropriate. If interested call Jeanie Vey at 230-9550.



**Treasurer's
Report**



Cash in Bank as of 3/15/2003	\$4,356.77
Total Receipts (+)	\$725.00
Less Total Disbursements (-)	\$3,536.26
Cash in Bank as of 4/15/2003	\$1,545.51
Invested Funds (Cassel / Shenk / Stahle and Misc.)	\$15,268.03

Area Events in The Arts

Sunday, May 4, 2003—3:00 PM

First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Avenue, Hershey, *Jubilate!* Choral Ensemble in Concert, directed by Agnes L. French. (see article, next column)

Sunday, May 4, 2003—4:00 PM

Derry Presbyterian Church, 248 East Derry Road, Hershey, Organist Helen Anthony in Recital, Works by Bach, Langlais, Franck and Vierne. 533-9667

Sunday, May 4, 2003—4:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, Stephen Nielson and Ovid Young, acclaimed duopians in concert with the Chancel Choir.

Sunday, May 4, 2003—4:00 PM

Grace Lutheran Church, North Queen and James Streets, Lancaster, Dr. Karl E. Moyer, F.A.G.O. organist, "A Church Recital of Music I Would Never Play In Church." Light classics, opera transcriptions, including to include "Liestod" from *Tristan und Isolde*; Guilmant *Sonata No. 5 in C minor*; *The Syncopated Clock*, and closing with *Stars and Stripes Forever*. Free admission, a free-will offering will be taken. Handicap accessible, A Light supper will follow—all are invited For further information call Arlene Volk: (717) 399-3970.

Sunday, May 4, 2003—7:00 PM

First Lutheran Church, corner of High and Bedford Streets, Carlisle, presents The Bach Choir & Bach Players of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York City, *BACH VESPERS*. (see article on pages 2-3)

Friday, May 9, 2003—8:00 PM

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, The Bucks County Choral Society will be presenting a program of French Sacred Masterworks for Choir, Organ and Brass with guest organist Ann Elise Smoot. The program will include the Duruflé *Requiem*, Daniel-Lesur's *Messe du Jubilé*, and Olivier Messiaen's *L'Ascension* for organ. Ms. Smoot will give a pre-concert talk and organ demonstration at 7PM introducing the Messiaen work. Tickets (\$20, \$18 for seniors, \$5 for students) are now available by calling 215-598-6142. Website: <www.buckschoral.org>

Sunday, May 18, 2003—7:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, Expressions of Faith, the annual contemporary praise music concert.

Monday, May 19, 2003—7:30 PM

Sell Chapel, Masonic Homes of Elizabethtown, Lancaster Chapter AGO meeting presenting Dr. Joe Utterback. (see article on page 4)

Tuesday, May 20, 2003—7:30 PM

Founder's Hall, Milton Hershey School, Hershey, piano recital by Dr. Joe Utterback. This concert is free, open to the public, no tickets are required. (see article on page 4)

Friday, May 23, 2003—7:30 PM

St. Mark Lutheran Church, 129 Charles Street, Hanover, Westminster Choir College Concert Handbell Choir.

Sunday, June 1, 2003—3:00 PM

Peace Church, Trindle Road at St. John's Church Road, Camp Hill, John Catalano, Classical Guitarist.

Sunday, June 8, 2003—3:00 PM

Peace Church, Trindle Road at St. John's Church Road, Camp Hill, Heralds of Harmony, Flossie Rider, conductor.

Sunday, June 15, 2003—3:00 PM

Peace Church, Trindle Road at St. John's Church Road, Camp Hill, Sarah Thrush, Harp and Organ Recital.

Jubilate! in Hershey

First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Avenue, Hershey, PA is pleased to present the Jubilate Chamber Choir in concert on Sunday, May 4 at 3:00PM.



Jubilate!

Jubilate! is a premier choral ensemble based in south-central Pennsylvania. The 25-voice ensemble is directed by Agnes French of Lancaster. The program will be entitled "If music be the food of love, sing on!" Anthems from the Renaissance through Contemporary will be featured, including music of Weelkes, di Lasso, Morley, Vaughan Williams, Rutter, as well as arrangements by many others.

The concert is free and open to the public. Childcare will be provided.

Bach Vespers (Continued from page 2)

and *Bach for All Seasons*, attest to the choir's excellence. The Bach Choir will be featured this coming summer at the national convention of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in San Diego, CA.

The Bach Players perform on baroque period instruments and are some of the finest early music players in New York City and the United States. Directed by Concertmaster Peter Kupfer, they are currently in the midst of a new Buxtehude recording project to be released in 2004.

Vespers with Bach is being underwritten by Tony Rand of Wilmington, DE, William Rand of Raleigh, NC, and Donald H. Goodyear, Jr. of Carlisle, and dedicated in memory of their grandfathers, Samuel M. Goodyear and William H. Goodyear, who were well-respected members of First Lutheran Church.

Located at High and Bedford Streets in Carlisle, First Lutheran Church is handicapped accessible. A freewill offering will be received, and a reception will follow. For additional information, call the church, 249-3310, or e-mail <firstevan@earthlink.net >.

Looking for Something Different?

If you have been searching for music that will add a little “spice” to your repertoire, the compositions of Dr. Joe Utterback may be just the thing. “Dr. Joe” received his doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of Kansas and is currently the Director of Music and Organist at First Congregational Church in Stratford, Connecticut. He has numerous CDs to his name and a wide assortment of publications for organ, piano, chorus, and voice.

The published compositions of Dr. Utterback range from completely original compositions to arrangements of familiar hymns. The influence of jazz, blues, and gospel are evident in varying degrees of intensity. What this offers the organist, and consequently his or her congregation, is an ear-opening expansion of inspired service music. Performing music that is outside the conventional box of organ repertoire can be fun and challenging for the organist while being thought-provoking and inspirational to the listener.

For the Lancaster Chapter’s May meeting, Dr. Utterback will be presenting a program entitled “A Sampler of Spirituals” on May 19 at 7:30 pm in the Sell Chapel of Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. For directions to the campus, call 367-1121, then press 9. Once on campus, follow the signs to Sell Chapel. He will explain the relationship of spirituals and blues and how African-Americans made major contributions to American music in the late 19th century through these two musical forms. Dr. Utterback will discuss the authenticity of the celebrated work of HT Burleigh, born in Erie, Pennsylvania, in 1866. Overcoming numerous obstacles, Burleigh worked hard from an early age to make music his life. In 1894, he became the first Negro paid soloist in the affluent parish of St. George’s Episcopal Church in NYC. While attending the National Conservatory of Music, Burleigh met and was influenced by Anton Dvorak who developed a strong interest in the plantation songs he heard Burleigh sing. This information is a part of Dr. Utterback’s work toward a second doctorate in combination with demonstrations from the keyboard. On Tuesday, May 20, Dr. Utterback will present a public piano recital at 7:30 pm, Founders Hall Auditorium, Milton Hershey School, Hershey where he will have presented a workshop on jazz improvisation to the students of MHS that afternoon. This concert is free, open to the public, and no tickets are required.

Don’t miss this great opportunity to experience the music of Joe Utterback at both of these events!

“Pipes on Potomac” AGO Regional Convention

The Region III Convention is coming to Alexandria, VA, June 22-25. Visit the web site: <www.novaago.org>, or e-mail: <novaago2003@cox.net>. The online registration form can be found at <www.novaago.org/pop2003/forms/regform.pdf>. Contact Diane Kingsbury (703) 430-0321 for information. Please note that the early registration deadline has been extended to May 15.

The “Pipes on Potomac” gathering will center in Alexandria, Virginia at the Radisson Hotel overlooking the Potomac River and Washington DC. Workshops in Accompanying, Handbells, Multi-Cultural Music, Organ Improvisation, Professional Concerns, Repertoire for a Small Choir and a Small Instrument, Spiritual Dimension, and Vocal Technique will be offered. Organ Recitals, a Hymn Festival, and a Duo Harpsichord Recital will also be presented by artists such as Naji Hakim, Ann Labounsky, Hector Olivera, Donald Sutherland, John Walker, and many others. Organs builders represented in the programs will be Austin, Casavant, Erben, Lively-Fulcher, Moeller, Schantz, Steiner-Reck, and Visser. Complete details are available in the recent issues of *The American Organist* and the full color booklet that was recently mailed.

2003 OHS Convention in Harrisburg

It has been just over a quarter of a century since the last Organ Historical Society visit to south-central Pennsylvania, the memorable bicentennial convention of 1976. At that time the focus was primarily on tracker organs, and the convention visited mostly small instruments built by Pennsylvania-German based builders. We will revisit some of these unique organs in 2003 and we will see and hear a wide variety of instruments which were not visited in 1976.

The convention will be based in Harrisburg at the downtown Crowne-Plaza Hotel where a number of rooms have been reserved for this event. Exhibits and cash bar will be available in the evenings after returning to the hotel. Each morning, at departure, a cart with pastries, fresh fruit, and tea and coffee will be available for purchase.

From Harrisburg, we will travel each day in a different direction, and we will experience an unusual variety of organs. We will visit the cities of Lancaster, Lititz, Lebanon, York, and Bethlehem, and we will travel up the Susquehanna and Juniata Rivers to Danville, Bellefonte, Altoona, State College and other interesting places. Some of the earliest extant American organs will be seen and heard, dating as far back as 1776. We will visit organs by David Tannenberg, the famous Moravian organ-builder who made instruments for Moravian, Lutheran, Reformed and Catholic congregations in late 18th-century colonial America. In addition to Tannenberg, a number of other local

(Continued on page 8)

Know Your Board Members
“SPOTLIGHT on Tony Ciucci”
by Mary Jane Nelson

A career as Dean of the Harrisburg Chapter.....? Not really, but for quite a spell during the recent decade, Tony has served at the helm of our local organization, and now he has agreed to return to the Board to serve once more! We welcome him back as a willing participant in the month-to-month challenge that is faced by the officers and committee chairs.



Tony Ciucci with François Levechin-Ganloff at Saint-Roch in Paris

Tony’s introduction to music began with piano lessons at the age of five, with a neighbor, Mrs. Mildred Hitz, as his teacher. He remembers her for her “kind and gentle spirit.” His mother asked him, in the seventh grade, if he would like to try the organ. Of course, the answer was “YES!” and he began to study with his parish organist, the late Paul Manski, who was known to many of us in the Greater Harrisburg area. Soon Tony was practicing every day after school on the pipe organ in the church, adjacent to the school. He says that Paul had an enormous influence on his musical education and growth.

While in high school, Tony began to play for some of the parish liturgies. When Paul Manski moved on to another parish, Tony began taking lessons at Market Square Presbyterian Church with the late Kenneth Landis, and had an occasional lesson with Ken’s wife –



Tony Ciucci with Flor Peeters in Mechelen, Belgium

now a Harrisburg Chapter member, Ellen Hunt. His interest in the organ continued to grow as he was enthralled with the four-manual Aeolian-Skinner at Market Square. His repertoire, up until then a bit limited, soon began to include some of the standard works

(Continued on page 9)

Getting to Know You
Interviews with our Members
by Ruth Brommer

Ever wonder what school teachers do in their “spare” time? You need to get to know this teacher! With her wide range of interests and various activities, I truly doubt there is much spare time in her life.

Meet Faith Matthews, current organist and music coordinator at Trinity United Methodist Church in Hummelstown. Faith has lived in the Central Pennsylvania area all her life. She grew up in New Cumberland, moved to Mechanicsburg when she was in third grade, and has lived in the Mechanicsburg area ever since.



Faith Matthews

Like most organists, Faith began her musical journey at age 6 with piano lessons, and began organ lessons when she was a sophomore in high school. The choir director at her home church, Janet Tyson, encouraged her to try the pipe organ. She didn’t think she would like playing the organ because she really loved playing the piano. She was wrong! She immediately loved the challenge of the pedals and could hardly wait to begin playing in church. Since her life always centered around the church, playing the organ for worship was a perfect match.

During her high school years, her organ teacher was Sharon Mauer, an AGO member. After graduation from high school, Faith went to Messiah College and began studying with Ron Sider. She felt she had a great teacher in Ron, who supported her in many musical adventures, and continues that role even today. After graduation from Messiah in 1978, Faith studied further with Earl Ness at Temple University, but primarily with Eugene Roan at Westminster Choir College. With college and post-graduate work behind her, Faith’s training now comes from attending AGO conventions and church worship conferences. She particularly loves the Montreat Conference on Worship and Music held each summer in Montreat, North Carolina.

Faith began playing the organ for worship in her home church, Grace United Methodist, in Mechanicsburg, where she played during both high school and college. After college she went to Calvary United Methodist Church, Lemoyne, in 1978. At first she was just the organist, but after several years she began directing the adult choir and three handbell choirs. She stayed at Calvary until the fall of 1995, when she went to her current church, Trinity United Methodist in Hummelstown.

Some of her greatest accomplishments as a church musician include organizing the handbell program at Calvary and a church orchestra at Trinity. She has also felt an incredible satisfaction composing hymn tunes and texts and is thrilled each time they are sung during worship. She also writes almost all of her own hymn introductions and many choral responses. Since she is not responsible for any of the choirs at Trinity, she has the time to compose.

Faith enjoys many styles of music, being equally happy listening to

(Continued on page 9)

History of Conrad Doll Organ at Peace Church

by Mary Jane Nelson

Many of you have been asked at one time or another to do a recital, or accompany an instrumentalist or soloist, at the historic Peace Church, located at the intersection of St. John's Church and Trindle Roads in Hampden Township. On page 7, Shawn Gingrich is describing the specifications of this unique instrument, designed and crafted by a Lancaster, PA schoolmaster, organist and craftsman by the name of Conrad Doll.



Peace Church, Camp Hill

On July 6, 1807, "Conrad Doll of Lancaster, organ maker..." and two elders of the German Reformed and Lutheran congregations who shared ownership of the church, signed an agreement regarding an organ "with six complete stops or sets of pipes." The price was \$466.67 in federal money, plus shipping and travel expenses. It is said that Mr. Doll agreed to complete the instrument within five months, and he kept his promise! (After all, there was an \$800 penalty for breach of contract!)

In the 1860s, the Lutherans built St. John's Church across the street, and the Reformed congregation moved to Mechanicsburg. The Peace Church was used only on rare occasions. The organ was brought to St. John's, apparently in 1887, after being repaired. However, in July 1954, St. John's was severely damaged in a storm. The organ escaped unscathed, but was moved back "home" to Peace Church two months later.

In 1973-74, under the auspices of the Friends of Peace Church and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the organ was faithfully restored by the Noack Organ Company, Inc. of Georgetown, Massachusetts. The aim was to bring the organ back to the original condition, trying to "right" some of the "wrongs" which were done in the "repair job" of 1887 by Samuel Bohler of Reading, PA. He had replaced a fair number of pipes in order to make the existing stops speak fast and without "chiff." It may be assumed that he tried to replace Doll's lesser efforts, but it must be remembered that Doll was trying to teach his classes while trying to produce the 6-stop organ in a 5-month time slot! (Do any of us know THAT feeling?) Some organ builders figure between 250 and 300 hours per stop! Doll had painted the lovely Chippendale-style case white, but had omitted the gild-



Conrad Doll Organ

ing...probably in deference to the Reformed members who might have been offended. But Doll's workmanship shows him to be a very capable cabinet-maker as evidenced in the well-made, elegant case, competently made wind chest, wooden pipes and other wooden parts. His metal pipes show considerably less competence, according to Noack.

Doll obviously knew David Tannenberg from Lititz, as the technical features of the Peace Church instrument are quite accurately fashioned after Tannenberg's organs.

But moving ahead to 1973-74! The reason that the Peace Church organ became a focal point of the Nelson household was the fact that the late Bob Nelson, my husband, was chair of the committee to restore the organ, having been named so by Fern Hetrick, chair of the Historical & Museum Commission at the time. Since Peace Church is only a hop, skip and a jump from our house, Fritz Noack was, at times, a luncheon guest at our table. We lived, ate and **b r e a t h e d** "Peace Church Organ" for the duration of the project.



Organ Keyboard

Fortunately, the changes made by Mr. Bohler in 1887 were reversible. The following procedures were done by Fritz Noack and his crew. (This information has been obtained through the article Fritz Noack wrote for the *Journal of the Organ Historical Society, Inc.* in the Fall of 1975, Volume 20, Number 1. A photo of the Peace Church Organ was on the cover of that issue.)

- (1) The case was stripped of all paint. Repainting was done in the original color. Gold leaf was applied to the lips of the front pipes and the flame-shaped finials. The cloth cover was replaced with a roof of plywood to discourage future water damage.
- (2) The keyboard naturals were recovered with ebony. The original pear wood can still be seen on the top note. It had been so soft that most keys had worn to the poplar key bodies. The ivory-covered

(Continued on page 7)

Peace Church (Continued from page 6)

sharps merely were cleaned and reshaped where excessively worn.

- (3) The chest had a bit of water damage. While the leather in the slider beds was left in place, the toe-board bottoms had to be straightened-out. The pallets were re-leathered. New stickers and sticker guides were made in the old style, but without all the rough edges which caused them to wear.
- (4) The bellows were repaired and a new bellows strap and tell-tale were installed.
- (5) Some new pipes were made according to the old models, which were easily ascertained by some research. The 19th century Melodia mouth found on pipes with Doll-style feet presented a puzzling question on the Claribel 4' wood open. Ungluing one pipe solved the puzzle: Mr. Bohler had inserted a block over the languid, turned the front piece inside out, and then built up the usual Melodia mouth. Thus, it was possible to reverse that process with new fronts.
- (6) The organ finally was reinstalled in its original place with a small electric blower hidden under the riser behind the organ as an alternate wind supply.
- (7) The original nameplate, a painted oval above the new music rack installed, reads: **Conrad Doll, No. 5, Lancaster**. Since there are no other Doll organs that are known to exist, the "5" may indicate that Doll built some string instruments in addition to the organ.

Conrad Doll was also a publisher, having published a collection of sacred songs in 1798, in three-part settings, intended for the "Singschulen," a common institution among the German congregations. It is of interest to note that the "instructions in singing" contained in Doll's tune-book show his familiarity with William Tansur's "The American Harmony," and with English-style singing. Doll describes the ideal choir sound to which he also aspired in his organ building... "clear, gentle, angelic in the treble, and rich, but not thick, in the bass." In attempting this ideal tonality, he breaks with whatever German traditions may otherwise still have been carried on in his area of organ design.

Another of Conrad Doll's occupations was as organist of the German Reformed Church School in Lancaster...but alas, he was dismissed...apparently, rather abruptly...in 1819. And some of us can identify with THAT circumstance, too!

According to Noack, America does not have many "historical" organs which are unchanged and in their original setting. The Conrad Doll is believed to be the first organ built in Cumberland County.

Taking features from different cultures – in the case of the Peace Church organ, German and English – and forming them into a cohesive new sound, is truly an American quality exhibited by this organ builder. If you have never seen or heard this instrument, visit Peace Church some Sunday afternoon during the summer. Musical events are scheduled almost every week.

Pipes in Proximity

by Shawn Gingrich

Mary Jane Nelson has given us the history of the Conrad Doll organ at Peace Church and the details of its restoration. I was given the pleasure of seeing this historic building and organ by Betty O'Neill of the Friends of Peace Church. Upon entering the building one takes a step back in

time. The organ is perched on the east balcony and the organist sits right on the edge of the balcony on a unique bench. The music desk is just the width of an open hymnal with the stop draw knobs in two single rows one on each side of the music desk. The keyboard has 53 keys and the stops



Organ bench

speak on the entire range (no split stops as on some one-manual instruments). The organ speaks clearly in the clean acoustic of the small church. The Gedackt is lovely by itself and it serves as the base of the chorus. The Dulciana is gentle, the 4' Flute is bright and cheerful, and the Claribel was so interesting, I had trouble describing its qualities. It is an open flute (with a metal flap at the top of the wooden pipes) and it sounds like a Spitz flute in the lower range, or even a Gemshorn in the upper range. You really have to hear it in person. The 4' Principal is the facade and as I played I could feel its breath in my face. There is nothing quite like playing a tracker instrument such as this when one's proximity with the pipes allows the feeling of being a part of the instrument.

The Organ Historical Society will visit this instrument this summer as a part of their convention to be held in our midst. Mark Brombaugh will play a recital on Saturday, June 21. See page 4 for more details on the Convention. Gail Archer will also return to our area to do one of the summer recitals on August 17, 2003. I hope you can attend an event to hear this interesting historic instrument.

Specification

- 8' Gedackt
- 8' Dulciana
- 4' Principal
- 4' Claribel
- 4' Flute
- 2' Fifteenth

Reflections on the Gail Archer Workshop

by Pierce Getz

On Saturday morning, March 29, the Harrisburg AGO Chapter presented Dr. Gail Archer of New York City's Barnard College, Columbia University and the Manhattan School of Music in a workshop on the performance of early music. This event preceded a recital by Dr. Archer the following afternoon, both activities taking place at Market Square Presbyterian Church.



Gail Archer with Sarah Thrush

There is no doubt that this workshop consisted of one of the more scholarly subjects presented by our Chapter. Nevertheless, despite the potential dangers of so academic a subject, the only disappointing aspect of the morning was the small number of organists, which included several visitors from other Chapters, who attended.

Coupled with the showing of slides of important historic German and Dutch organs and churches she has visited, Dr. Archer spoke fluently and very knowledgeably about the basic characteristics of instrumental music of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, giving logical and convincing explanations of its effect upon performance style as it pertains to the organ.

These comments were followed by an all-too-brief session at the organ in which Sarah Thrush and Dean Shawn Gingrich respectively played works of Sweelinck and Bruhns. In her enthusiastic and energetic manner, Dr. Archer gave succinct suggestions and demonstrations pertaining to style and interpretation, involving such techniques as the use of early fingering, articulation, and, in the case of the Bruhns composition, the manner of playing passages composed in *stylus fantasticus* fashion.

Many of us shy away from playing much music of the period discussed by Dr. Archer, perhaps largely because it is too little understood. Dr. Archer's presentation showed how a proper and more authentic approach causes this music to spring alive and speak to us even today.

Directory Addenda

Anyone who has changes to report to the directory information should contact Doris Savage at 697- 4042 or by e-mail at <dlsavage@att.net>. Please insert the following email address changes into your directory:

Jim Acri's correct e-mail address is <jacri49647@aol.com>
Waneta Benson's new e-mail address is <wanetabob@paonline.com>
Doris Savage's new e-mail address is <dlsavage@att.net>

Chapter Notes

We extend our sympathies to Shelly Moorman-Stahlman and her family on the death of her brother.

Membership Renewal For 2003-2004

It is time to begin the membership renewal process for the 2003-2004 year. The official membership year is from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004. Enclosed with this issue of the Bombarde is the membership renewal application. Please be sure to complete the bottom portion of the form to ensure that the chapter's membership records are accurate. You can also retrieve a renewal or new membership application on the Chapter's web site <www.harrisburgago.com>.



National Headquarters would like membership completed no later than August 31st. Current members' subscriptions to The American Organist Magazine (TAO) continue through November 2003. Members whose renewals are not reported by September 1st may not receive their December TAO or further issues on time, depending on when their dues are finally received and processed by Headquarters.

Remember to invite your organist friends to join the Chapter. New or renewal membership applications can be obtained on the web site <harrisburgago.com> or by calling Doris Savage at 697-4042.

OHS Convention (Continued from page 4)

builders of the 19th century will also be represented. The work of such well-known 19th century builders as Hook & Hastings, J.W. Steere & Sons, and A.B. Felgemacher will be represented as well as the 20th-century work of E.M.Skinner, Aeolian-Skinner, Casavant and the spectacular Steinmeyer organ in Altoona. We will also learn of the local history and culture in special presentations by speakers from local historical societies. There will be time for walking tours and exploring local downtown historic districts and museums.

Players will include; James Darling, Bruce Stevens, Rosalind Mohnsen, Lois Regestein and David Dahl as well as Ken Cowan, Matthew Glandorf, AGO competition winner Kola Owalabi, Erik Suter, Susan Hegberg and many, many more.

The convention runs from June 19 - 26, 2003. Early registration is before May 26. If you are not an OHS member, please contact the OHS office at 804-353-9226. Check the website <http://www.organsociety.org/2003> for more information on schedules, registration and beautiful color pictures of these very special organs.

Faith Matthews (Cont. from pg 5)

great organists, choirs and symphonies as well as steel drums, Celtic tunes and music from the “Smokey Mountains.” Her full-time job is teaching 4th grade at Dillsburg Elementary School in the Northern York School District, where she has taught since 1978. For the past ten years she has helped with the Elementary School musical.

Other than music, she loves photography, especially taking pictures of waterfalls and landscapes in the Smokey Mountains. She also loves gardening and taking it even farther, dries the flowers for greeting cards and potpourri. Knitting is one of her new favorite past-times and she has loved bike riding since she was a child.

Her family lives in Mechanicsburg with some extended family in Buffalo, NY. Her immediate family includes 3 cats, Mittens at age 19 and Scooter and Scamper, both age 2.

Faith’s experience in church music prompts her to offer this advice to future church musicians: “Always remember that you are part of the church team. Your goal is to aid others in worship. Keep an open mind when asked to try new things. Serving as a church musician is the most rewarding experience I have had in life.”

Tony Ciucci (Continued from page 5)

of J. S. Bach and Cesar Franck.

Tony says he was fortunate around that time to attend an “Organ Week for High School Students” at Westminster Choir College, conducted by Joan Lippincott and Eugene Roan. During that one week, he remembers learning a great deal about the organ, and how to practice, and this experience influenced his decision to continue his musical education.

A full-tuition scholarship to Temple University enabled him to study the organ and receive college credit, studying under Earl Ness, who had been a student of Alexander McCurdy at The Curtis Institute of Music. His lessons were on a beautiful three-manual Möller at the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Dr. Ness insisted that his students play in churches, so he assisted Tony, and his other students, in finding appropriate positions.

Tony speaks highly of, and is grateful for, the education he received at Temple, and as the years go on, he appreciates more and more the incredible musical experiences he had as a student in Philadelphia. As a member of the Temple Concert Choir, he sang under two of the most highly acclaimed leaders in choral music – Elaine Brown and Robert Page. He sang major works with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Academy of Music, went on tour throughout the New England states, and sang a world premiere performance in New York City, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

Following college, he remained in the Philadelphia area, continuing to sing with the Singing City choir and others. For a brief time he belonged to the Collegiate Choir of the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, under Peter LaManna’s direction.

Since those days, Tony has been playing in churches, directing choirs, teaching music in schools and also teaching privately. He has given recitals throughout Central and Southeastern PA, in New York City and in Washington, DC.

He has served several terms on the Executive Committee of the AGO Chapter in Philadelphia, and coordinated that Chapter’s Tuesday Noon Recital Series for several years. Tony stated that he considers it his great privilege to have studied abroad for two weeks in 1980, as part of an International Organ Masterclass with Flor Peeters, in the magnificent Cathedral of Saint Rombold in Mechelen, Belgium.

When he returned to Harrisburg in 1989, he joined the Harrisburg Chapter as a dual member, and became more involved as the years went on. His service as Dean began in 1994 and lasted until 2000. During that time, he was appointed District Convener for Central and Western Pennsylvania by the Regional Councillor, George Tutwiler, and subsequently, by Neal Campbell, our current Regional Councillor.

Since 1993, Tony has been serving as Director of Music at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Camp Hill, as well as teaching music in kindergarten through eighth grade at the Good Shepherd School. He teaches a junior choir after school two days a week, and has an adult choir, also. He accompanies all masses for the school and for the congregation.

The next paragraph points up Tony’s “hobby”, which he told me was “travel.” His most recent trip abroad was in February of 2002 when he journeyed to France on a study tour with *Peter’s Way, Limited*, of New York. He had the chance to visit glorious cathedrals, monasteries and historical sites in Chartres, Normandy, Solesmes, Mont-Saint-Michel, Lisieux, Rouen and Paris. While in Paris, he had the opportunity to play the famous organs in the Church of Le Trinité, Saint-Roch, Saint-Denis, and Sainte-Clotilde. He also visited the Louvre, Sacre Coeur, La Saint-Chapelle, Saint-Sulpice, La Madeleine, and the monumental Cathedral of Notre Dame! He has also been able to attend quite a few national and regional AGO conventions, which have included many cities and pipe organs in our own country.

In Tony’s words, “*The AGO continues to be for me a primary source of stimulation, encouragement and musical resources. The Guild also provides an atmosphere of camaraderie, mutual support and friendship.*”

And we thank Tony for all the effort and time he has given the Chapter in the past, and we look forward to enjoying more of his many talents and his wisdom in our future planning, as he once again serves as a Board Member!

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

Return Service Requested



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**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 inclusion in the June/July 2003 newsletter is May 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: <kmyers77@localnet.com>



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