

April 2020

www.harrisburgago.org

The Bombarde

American Guild of Organists – Harrisburg Chapter

From the Dean



Dear colleagues,

I never thought that we would see a Holy Week with nobody in our Sanctuaries, and yet, here we are. The COVID-19 pandemic has taken the country by storm and, almost instantly, turned our lives upside-down. Maybe some of you have been live-streaming services and other worship activities, which I imagine has created new challenges for you in your ministry. If you're like me, I'm sure that you're missing the people you work with, the volunteers who encompass your numerous ensembles, and the faithful who fill up our pews each and every weekend to worship with us. In my own church, I'm used to seeing anywhere from 400-600 at Mass during the weekend, so it's been a strange few weeks for me live-streaming a Mass with only five of us in attendance! During these last few weeks, however, I've been reminded of the verse from I Timothy 5, where Paul describes the church as people dedicated to doing whatever it takes to reach out and help others.

Friends, as I'm sure you know better than most, the church is not simply the building we worship in each weekend. It can be easy to lose sight of the fact that we aren't just going to church...but in fact, WE ARE the church (yes, I made the Penn State reference on purpose...). Take this opportunity to figure out other ways that you can minister to your choirs and congregations, and allow God to continue working through you to spread the Gospel to your faith community. As God is always with us, so we too must always be His hands and feet in the world.

From a Chapter scheduling standpoint, we will be postponing our May banquet and Annual meeting to a later date (TBD), and will wait to make a call on the Michael Hey recital until after Easter. We continue to work diligently on various projects, and are looking forward to sharing many of those with you in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you aren't on Facebook, I encourage you to go and check out our page. I'll be doing some posting in the coming weeks and hope that many of you will join me in continuing to spread our love for the organ by posting some of your favorite hymns or pieces of literature on our page.

I thank you all for your continued support of our Chapter, and your dedication to the mission of the AGO. I look forward to being with you all again soon!

Happy Easter!
Justin

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles;
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Inside this edition...

Article	Page
From the Dean	1
From the Sub Dean	1
Lunch Bunch	2
Archivist Report	2-3
Positions Available	3
Publication Information	4

Visit us on the web: www.harrisburgago.org

Also find us on Facebook:

Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



From the Sub Dean

Dear friends,

This is such a crazy time we're living in, but we will make it through the storm. We must remember that God is still here with us. I appreciate everyone's support and understanding of us cancelling our March program. We will bring Nathaniel Gumbs back for our 2021-2022 program year. We are continuing to monitor the situation and will make a decision regarding our May program featuring Michael Hey at Pine Street Presbyterian Church after Easter, at the request of Hey's artist representation. Our banquet and annual meeting will be postponed and once we have a date set we will be sure to get that news out to you.

There are things we can still be doing! I ask that you continue to check in with your choir members; most of them look forward to their weekly dose of rehearsal and fellowship time with you and their friends. Set up a Zoom call, even if it's just to get together and chat or for a wine and cheese hour. You can sing hymns together (I do recommend you muting their microphones!). Need assistance in this area? I'm happy to help! If you don't do that, maybe call one member a day; they will LOVE the fact that you are thinking of them. You can record music to post to your church's Facebook page and/ or website. Part of our job is to minister and during these troubling times we must remember that and remain strong and care for others.

I'm sure some of us have been looking for a time to tackle a major work. We get bogged down with so much administrative duties which can take over our practice time. Some want to improve their sight reading skills. Open the hymnal and work your way through it; set a goal of ten hymns per day. How about researching a composer or two? There's lots of stuff we can get into!

This will be a different kind of Easter. While traveling through the wilderness, we are not alone, friends. God is with us. We are also here for each other. My friends, we will make it through this together. Stay safe. Stay well. If you need anything (groceries/ medication deliveries, a ride to a doctor appointment, a friend to chat with) please pick up the phone and contact one of us. I love how strong our Harrisburg AGO Chapter is and now more than ever we must remain strong.

God bless us all. Happy Easter!

Tyler
443.326.6234 (cell)

Lunch Bunch

We have tentatively planned to hold the next networking lunch on May 13th at 11:30 am. Doris Savage will let you know if we need to cancel this due to current circumstances. We will meet at the Perkins Restaurant, 7 Erford Drive, Lemoyne (in front of the Radisson). Please email or phone Doris Savage no later than the preceding Monday, May 11th if you plan to attend. Email dorisavage@comcast.net or telephone 717-697-4042.



Archivist Report

2001/2002

Officers

Dean, Shelly Moorman-Stahlman
Sub-Dean, Shawn Gingrich
Secretary, Kenneth Walker
Treasurer, Kathy Myers
Registrar, Mary Jane Nelson
Chaplain, Mgrs. Thomas H. Smith
Auditors, James Acri / Brian Rice

Board of Directors

Don Golden, Jane Miller, Doris Savage
Timothy Koch, Phyllis Mooney, Ruth Bommer
Alan Berlin, Thomas Clark-Jones, Carolyn Houck

Committees

Directory Update, Kathy Myers / Doris Savage;
Education, Robert Lau; Membership, Carolyn Evens;
The Bombarde, Jeff Cogan / Don Golden;
Nominating, Jane Miller; Professional Concerns, Pierce Getz;
Program, Shawn Gingrich; Publicity, Mary Jane Nelson;
Substitutes / Job Placement, Timothy Koch;
Violette Cassel Organ Competition, Thomas Clark-Jones.

Programs

"Member/Student Recital", Forum Auditorium, Harrisburg, September 10
"Organs of Bach's Time in Sight and Sound", Pierce Getz, Market Square Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, October 9
"Hymn Festival", Mr. Mark Laubach, organist, Derry Presbyterian Church, Hershey, November 4
"Wassail Party and Impromptu Concert" Faith Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, December 31
"Workshop Sessions and Used Music Sale", Hymnody/Tony Cucci; Organ Repair and Maintenance/ Rich Pruetz; Choral Repertoire and Techniques/ Dr. Mark Mecham; Practical Organ Repertoire for Service Playing/Shawn Gingrich; First UCC, Carlisle, January 26
"Organ and Piano Technique, Similarities and Differences", Shelly Moorman Stahlman / Dennis Sweigart; Lebanon Valley College, Annville, February 19

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

“Meet the Allen Renaissance R450 with Factory Representatives”, Zion Lutheran Church, Enola, March 16
“Organ Crawl to Hanover/Gettysburg Area”, April 20
“End of Year Social with Installation of the new Board and Officers”, Hardings Restaurant, Camp Hill, May 14

From The Bombarde

Our Chapter received a very generous monetary gift in memory of his mother from Mr. Melvin Shenk to be used in establishing the Shenk Scholarship Fund to encourage the study of organ to interested young students. Mrs. Shenk was the first cousin of Violette Cassel for whom our student competition is named. Mrs. Shenk was an organist for over 60 years and served as organist at the Manada Hill United Methodist Church.

At its January meeting, the Board discussed the idea of forming an editorial board to assist with items placed in the newsletter.

Organ music was collected for our Used Music Sales. The final sale was held at the January meeting of the Chapter at the First UCC Church in Carlisle. Kathy Myers was in charge of the collection of the music and the sales.

In order to save money on postage, the members of the Chapter were informed that The Bombarde would be available each month at our Chapter website; in addition, the Editor could transmit the newsletter to the email address of members requesting it.

Ken Walker, Archivist

Positions Available

Organist: Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA), Harrisburg, PA, seeks an organist to join our worship team in a warm, caring and appreciative liturgical setting. Resources include Messiah's M.P. Moeller pipe organ (orig. 1918, rebuilt 1948) consisting of 3 manuals and 41 ranks. Console rebuilt in 2016 incorporating new console and digital chamber control system including memory, record, playback and MIDI capabilities. Baldwin grand piano also available. Would team with collaborative Director of Music who directs a well-balanced 18 voice choir, soloists, instrumentalists and supportive Pastors as well as Worship and Music committee. Long-standing tradition of musical excellence and congregational support for music program; beautiful worship setting. Successful candidate will be someone who views music as a ministry. Ability to sight read, perform diverse styles of music and lead congregational worship through hymns and singing in a liturgical setting. Part-time, includes one Sunday service, weekly choir practice, additional services during Advent, Lent, Holy Week. Position available June 1, 2020. To apply, please send resume to Dan Asmus, Director of Music, Messiah Lutheran Church, 901 N. 6th St. Harrisburg, PA 17102-1700.

Organist: Dynamic UCC church in Elizabethtown, PA seeks an Organist to lead worship through music. The successful candidate will possess strong musical skills playing the organ and piano as well as skills in organization and cooperative teamwork. Candidates should have a degree or equivalent experience, and

have a broad knowledge of church music repertoire with proficiency in a wide range of musical styles. The responsibilities of the Organist include: Approximately 10 hours per week doing the following: • Accompany adult choir rehearsals (occasionally other choirs) • Play for two Sunday morning worship services (one during the summer) • Play for a limited number of special worship services Christ Church UCC has a Safe Church Policy. A background check for all employees is standard procedure. For more details, visit www.ETOWNUCC.org. A letter of application, resume, and two letters of recommendation can be sent Attention: Organist Search Committee to either Christ Church UCC, 247 S. Market Street, Elizabethtown, PA 17022 or via email to: GalenRussell@etownucc.org. Deadline for submissions is December 1, 2019. A complete job description is available upon request.

Director of Music Ministries: Derry Presbyterian Church, Hershey seeks a full-time Director of Music Ministries (DMM) who will provide vision and leadership for a music ministry in harmony with our mission statement, “to proclaim God’s word, share God’s love, and practice God’s justice” and our vision “to be an inquiring, inviting, and inclusive Christ-centered community.” The DMM plans, produces, and provides music ministry programs that create community, educate listeners, and glorify God. Music is a vital part of our ministry together, so we seek a Director who leads from a place of spirituality rather than performance and who promotes a music ministry that is inclusive of various people, talents, and styles of worship music. We are passionate about mission and desire a missional music ministry that not only leads in worship but also reaches out and ministers to our community. The DMM will be a ministry leader in the church who will report directly to the Pastor (Head of Staff) and work in collaboration with our dedicated staff and congregational volunteer leaders. The DMM will have a passion for sharing their love of God and of music with children, youth, and adults. Interested candidates should send a one-page cover letter that speaks to experience and passion for music ministry, a résumé, and contact information for three professional references who can attest to skills and abilities as a choir director and/or organist to Kathy McGrath at kathy.mcgrath09@gmail.com. Applicants are encouraged to submit links to streaming audio or video of their current choir and/or organ playing. A full job description can be found at www.derrypres.org.

Organist / Choir Director: Our Saviour Lutheran Church is looking for an Organist/Choir Director. This is a part time position (15 hours per week) and would include preparation, and involvement in the Sunday worship, choir practice, and occasional special services, (e.g. Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve). The Organist/Choir Director may be asked to accompany for weddings and funerals, as available. Our Saviour Lutheran is a caring congregation dedicated to the Word of Christ that welcomes all people to worship and grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children, and ourselves. Interested persons should send their completed resume, including references, to Our Saviour Lutheran Church at 420 N Progress Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17109 or email to ossec@comcast.net.

*Harrisburg Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists*

Dr. Shawn Gingrich, Editor
1102 Ballyshannon Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Address Service Requested

HARRISBURG CHAPTER BOARD

**ELECTED
Officers**

Dean	Justin Myers
SubDean	Tyler Canonico
Secretary	Christopher Prestia
Treasurer	Scott Witfield

Members at Large

2016—2020	Joyce Gerstenlauer, Tom Notestine, Karen Worley
2018—2022	Phyllis Conrad, Daniel Dorty, Chris Mirocco
2018—2019 Young Adult Representative (appointed)	Alexander Ashman

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archivist	Kenneth Walker
Chaplain	Father James Lease
Chapter Directory	Patrick McMullen
Communications (Newsletter, Emailed Quick News, Website)	Shawn Gingrich
Competition	Daniel Dorty
Education	Christopher Prestia
Finance	Scott Witfield
Hospitality	Phyllis Conrad
Membership	Daniel Glessner
Placement	Ellen Hunt
Professional Development	Deborah Dillane
Program	Tyler Canonico
Publicity	Chris Mirocco
Registrar	Daniel Glessner

The Bombarde is published quarterly by the Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Submission to The Bombarde

The deadline for *The Bombarde* is the fifteenth of Dec, Mar, Jun, Sep for the following quarter's edition unless otherwise noted. Whenever possible, please submit your items in electronic format. For area events, please follow the format.



Deadline for inclusion in the third quarter 2020 newsletter is June 15, 2020.

Please send **all** submissions to:
Shawn Gingrich

1102 Ballyshannon Drive
Elizabethtown PA 17022

Telephone: 717-877-8554 Fax: 717-533-6005
E-mail: shawn.gingrich@firstumchershey.org

PLEASE NOTE: the email addresses @harrisburgago.org have all been disabled and we cannot recover them.