

October 2023

[www.harrisburgago.org](http://www.harrisburgago.org)

# The Bombarde

## American Guild of Organists – Harrisburg Chapter



### From the Dean

Dear friends,

Happy Fall! For those who are working in churches, I hope your start to this new program year is off to a great start. For those who are enjoying retirement, I hope you are still enjoying retirement!

Our 2023-2024 program year began with an excellent Scholarship Recital last month! Nine students and three teachers played some great repertoire. Over 75 were in attendance! It was a great afternoon! Our program year continues with a masterclass with Eric Plutz. Eric is organist for Princeton University and he will lead a masterclass for us on Saturday, October 28 at Pine Street Presbyterian Church (downtown Harrisburg). Parking is available in the South Street Garage or on the street. Join us at 9:30 a.m. for some goodies provided by our Hospitality Committee and then the masterclass will begin at 10:00 a.m. Students from Lebanon Valley College and Dickinson University will participate. I would love to have one or two chapter members participate as well. **If you are interested in playing for the masterclass, please email Hannah Koby at [musicdirector@stjohnscarlisle.org](mailto:musicdirector@stjohnscarlisle.org) by October 14.**

I hope you will consider attending our Chapter programs this year. We have scaled back this year with all the work that is going into our 2025 Regional Convention. Attending our Chapter programs offers great support and opportunities.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. Have a blessed season!

Tyler Canonico

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.

### Upcoming 2023-2024 Programs

Masterclass with Eric Plutz, Saturday, October 28 – 9:30 am – 12:00 pm  
Pine Street Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, Joseph Garrison, host.

See details above in Dean's Column.

NOTE: Mr. Plutz will play a recital the following day, October 29 at 4 p.m.

Epiphany Party Friday, January 5 – 6:30 pm

St. Catherine Laboure, Harrisburg, Father James Lease, host

Jumpstart presented by Philadelphia AGO

January 27 – 8 am to 4 pm at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church  
Harrisburg Chapter members can receive Throne grants to cover the cost of registration.

Recital featuring Dr. Jan Kraybill Sunday, March 17 – 3:00 pm

Miller Chapel, Lebanon Valley College, Annville,  
Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, host

Hymn Festival with David Cherwien Co-sponsored with Trinity  
Sunday, May 19 – 4:00 pm Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, Tim Koch, host

AGO Banquet Date and venue to be determined.

All programs are free and open to the public (except for the banquet).

### Lunch Bunch

Join us for the next lunch on Wednesday, October 18 at 11:30am at Perkins 7 Erford Rd Lemoyne. To sign up visit [harrisburgago.org](http://harrisburgago.org) or for more information contact: [harrisburgago@gmail.com](mailto:harrisburgago@gmail.com) or call Shawn Gingrich at 717-877-8554.

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## Thank You!

Thank you for the cards you sent to me on the occasion of my 90th Birthday. I am most grateful for your support of my 75 years as a Church musician. The Harrisburg AGO Chapter is a wonderful blessing in my life.

Ralph Kneeream

## Archivist Report

2015—2016

**Elected Officers:** Dean, Shawn Gingrich; Secretary, Karen Appel; Treasurer, Richard Zentmeyer

**Members at Large:** Anthony Ciucci, Judy Schrack, Julie Jones, Ray Edmison, Faith Matthews, Carolyn Wright, Deborah Dillane, Robert Lau, Justin Myers

**Appointed:** Archivist, Kenneth C. Walker; Chaplain, Father James Lease; Chapter Directory, Richard Zentmeyer; Communications, Shawn Gingrich; Historian, Charles Yocum; Hospitality, Phyllis Conrad; Membership, Judy Schrack; Placement, Timothy Koch; Professional Development, Ralph Kneeream; Program, Robert Lau; Publicity, Mary Jane Nelson; Registrar, Richard Zentmeyer; Young Adult Representative, Daniel Dorty

### Programs

2015

- August 30—Shenk Scholarship Student/Teacher Recital at First Lutheran Church in Carlisle



- September 22—Dinner and program with Dennis Lanson, filmmaker, presenting "To Hear the Music" the story of master organ builder Charles Fisk at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Mechanicsburg. Justin Myers, host
- October 3—Rhonda Sider Edgington, clinician, presenting pictures, videos and recordings of historic organs in Germany at Messiah College. Shawn Gingrich, host
- October 4—Rhonda Sider Edgington with the Messiah College Faculty instrumentalists at Messiah College. Shawn Gingrich, host
- November 14—"Hymn Styles and How to Play Them: Hymnody vis-à-vis Theology" Dr. Karl Moyer, clinician at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hershey. Alan Hair, host.

2016

- January 16—January Jumpstart with the Philadelphia Chapter AGO at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr

- February 2—Members' Recital "Harrisburg AGO Gives Back". Chapter members played a "fun" program for Bethany Village residents at Bethany Village. Charles Yocum/Anna Royer, hosts
- March 4—Pot-luck meal and program "Music and Art". Chapter members played selections from varying time periods while art work from the same



period was displayed on screen at First United Methodist Church in Hershey. Shawn Gingrich, host

- April 10—Dr. Delbert Disselhorst Recital at First Lutheran Church in Carlisle. Aaron Sunstein, host
- May 10—The Lower Dauphin String Quartet provided musical entertainment for the Annual Meeting at Harmony Hall, 1400 Fulling Mill Road, Middletown. A social hour preceded the dinner and installation of Officers and Board Members and Chuck Yocum was named a Member of Honor.

### From the Bombardes

- Thirteen students received the Shenk Scholarship for organ lessons. They studied with Victor Fields, Shawn Gingrich, Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, Matt Weaver, and Aaron Sunstein.
- Ellen Hunt agreed to serve as the Director for the POE+ hosted by our Chapter in the summer of 2016. More details of this event will be given in a future Archivist's Report.
- Anthony (Tony) Ciucci of our Chapter had the honor of being a member of the Archdiocesan Choir for two Masses celebrated by Pope Francis during the Pope's visit to Philadelphia.
- Scott Thornburg and Sean McCarthy were featured as trumpeter and organist for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organ at Derry Presbyterian Church in Hershey.
- The 2016 AGO National Convention was held June 19-23 in Houston, Texas.
- A program was added at the end of June in 2016 that featured Jeremy Jelinek a student at Eastman and winner of the 2015 Regional Competition.
- "Allegro con Fuoco", a duo that does four-hand piano, four-hand, four-feet organ and a combination of piano and organ gave a concert at Historic Grace Methodist Church on State Street in December of 2015. Tyler Canonico and Jordan Markham of our Chapter combined their talents to give the audience an exciting service of Christmas music.
- Dr. Robert Lau was inducted into the Lebanon County Hall of Fame for his work as a college professor, composer and clinician.

Ken Walker  
Archivist

## Sider Celebration

Dr. Ronald R. Sider, AAGO celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with a family concert in the church in Ontario, Canada where he began organ lessons as a teenager. The concert was on the same Casavant at St. Paul's Anglican, Dunnville, Ontario. Participating in the concert was Ronald Sider, organist; Beth Sider, pianist and flutist; daughter, Rhonda Sider Edgington, organist; son, Eric Sider, trumpeter; grandchildren, Isaac and Esther Edgington, violinists; and son-in-law, Mark Edgington, bass. They played individually, and at the end they played altogether.

The concert was attended by Dr. Sider's Canadian family, friends, community, and St. Paul's church members. Approximately 125 people enjoyed the evening concert. A birthday cake and reception followed the concert.

Rhonda Sider Edgington wrote: "As summer officially comes to a close, I'm finally finding a minute to sit down and post a highlight - the gathering in July in Ontario to celebrate my dad's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. In addition to fun by Lake Erie with many friends and relatives, there was a family concert, to celebrate our mutual love of music, and the many years of music making that have gone into his 90 years."

"When he was just a teenager, on lunch break from a summer job, my dad walked into a church in downtown Dunnville, and heard the organ playing for the first time. When the organist there asked if he'd like to take organ lessons, the course of his life (and then mine) was changed."

## Positions Available

There are numerous positions listed on the website. We encourage you to visit [www.harrisburgago.org/placement](http://www.harrisburgago.org/placement) for the most up-to-date information.

## Area Events

Please visit the website for the listing of events:

[www.harrisburgago.org/area-events](http://www.harrisburgago.org/area-events)

Events listed are those submitted to the editor.

## Handel's Messiah Sing In

SINGERS and LISTENERS INVITED

Saturday, November 11, 2023

Scholarship Fundraiser sponsored by the Harmonia Music Association and co-sponsored with Lebanon Valley College  
Held in LVC Miller Chapel  
Performance time 3:00 pm

Dr. Mark Mecham, Director  
Dr. Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, Organist

Soloists:

Jessica Weidman, Soprano  
Amy Yovanovich, Mezzo/Alto  
Jonathan Walker-Vankuren, Tenor  
Jason Widney, Bass/Baritone

Singers should register now.

Email: [MessiahSingin2023@gmail.com](mailto:MessiahSingin2023@gmail.com)

Donations accepted for Harmonia's Scholarship Fund.

## Finance Report

Shawn Gingrich, treasurer

Balance in Checking as of 2/15/2023	\$1,534.39
Balance in Checking as of 6/30/2023	\$ 585.60

Invested Funds as of 2/15/2023	
Harrisburg AGO Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$3,814.75
Thrivent Investment Fund <sup>1</sup>	\$50,678.52
Frances Bishop Fund	\$142,306.47
Total	\$198,334.13

Invested Funds as of 6/30/2023	
Harrisburg AGO Savings <sup>2</sup>	\$2,441.02
Thrivent Investment Fund <sup>2</sup>	\$52,308.46
Frances Bishop Fund	\$143,745.06
Total	\$199,080.14

### NOTES:

<sup>1</sup>Harrisburg AGO Savings is the total of the HAGO savings and the Thrivent Investment Fund. Detail as of 2/15/2023:

Cassel Competition Fund	\$4,782.57
Clapper-Frysinger Bequests	\$3,378.60
Reserve Savings	\$22,407.42
Schenk Scholarship Fund	\$9,362.45
Throne Fund	\$7,080.11
Yocum Scholarship Fund	\$7,482.12

<sup>2</sup>Harrisburg AGO Savings is the total of the HAGO savings and the Thrivent Investment Fund. Detail as of 6/30/2023:

Cassel Competition Fund	\$3,288.77
Clapper-Frysinger Bequests	\$3,489.69
Reserve Savings	\$23,117.35
Schenk Scholarship Fund	\$9,800.31
Throne Fund	\$7,304.36
Yocum Scholarship Fund	\$7,749.00

## 2025 Regional Convention

We will host the regional convention  
July 7 to 10, 2025. Save the date!

More information will be posted on our  
Convention Website when it becomes available:

<https://agoharrisburg2025.org/>

Visit us on the web:

[www.harrisburgago.org](http://www.harrisburgago.org)



Also find us on Facebook: Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

And on YouTube:

Harrisburg AGO



*Harrisburg Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists*

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Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Address Service Requested

**HARRISBURG CHAPTER BOARD**

**ELECTED**

**Officers**

Dean	Tyler Canonico
Sub Dean	Currently Vacant
Secretary	Justin Pechulis
Treasurer	Shawn Gingrich

**Members at Large**

2020—2024	Deb Dillane, Robert Lau, Dan Stokes
2022—2026	Phyllis Conrad, Ellen Hunt, Andrew Meade
2023—2024 Young Representative	Ethan Draper

**APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Archivist / Historian	Kenneth Walker
Chaplain	Fr. James Lease
Communications (Newsletter, Emailed Quick News, Website)	Shawn Gingrich
Competition	Shawn Gingrich
Education	Andrew Meade
Finance	Shawn Gingrich
Hospitality	Phyllis Conrad
Membership	Justin Pechulis
Placement	Ellen Hunt
Program	Hannah Koby
Publicity	John Robinson
Registrar	Justin Pechulis

**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 first quarter 2024 newsletter is December 15, 2023.

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

1102 Ballyshannon Drive  
Elizabethtown PA 17022

Telephone / Text: 717-877-8554 Fax: 717-533-6005

E-mail: HarrisburgAGO@gmail.com

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