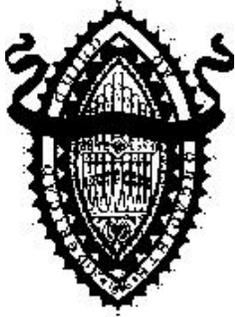


May 2001

The Bombarde

Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

From the Dean



From June 17-22, twenty five to forty students 13-18 years old will gather in our area to learn about the organ. You have heard about this event now for several months. This is a highlight of our year. The members of the Harrisburg and Lancaster AGO chapters are combining efforts to promote the organ to youth in our area.

The program committee has been working since June 2000 preparing for this event. Gary Garletts, dean of Lancaster chapter, and Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, dean of Harrisburg chapter, are co-directors of the event. The faculty coordinator, John Brooks of Lancaster chapter, has made arrangements for our faculty and workshop leaders. The facility coordinator, Carol Cotnoir of Lancaster chapter, has contacted all of the churches in the Harrisburg and Lancaster area to arrange for use of the facilities for the daily lessons and practice sessions for each student. The treasurer, Pat Smith of Lancaster chapter, is responsible for paying our bills. The secretary, Tony Ciucci of Harrisburg chapter, serves as our registrar. The publicity coordinators, Mary Jane Nelson of Harrisburg chapter and Tom Mercer of Lancaster chapter, prepared and mailed the brochures and are responsible for publicizing the events with local media. Our transportation coordinator, Delight St. John of Harrisburg chapter, is responsible for organizing transportation for the students'

daily lessons.

Each day the students will attend workshops and daily lessons and practice sessions.
(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

Membership Renewal Time	2
Getting to Know Your Chapter Officers	2
Harrisburg AGO Competition Winner	3
Treasurer's Report	3
Networking Lunch	3
Area Events	3
Position Available	3
Duquesne University announces summer sessions	4
Arnold Bowman obituary	5

May Banquet

A touch of Italy

Monday May 7, 2001 at 6:00 pm

The Arches Restaurant, North Front Street, Harrisburg.

Cost: \$22.00 per person (includes meal, tax and gratuity)

Send your checks made out to Harrisburg Chapter, AGO to Kathy Myers, 1701 Creek Vista Drive, New Cumberland, PA 17070.

All checks should be sent by May 1.

Menu

Italian Wedding Soup, Anti-Pasta Tray, Stuffed Shells with Ricotta, Chicken Marsala, Fettucine Alfredo, Roasted Red Skin Potatoes in Garlic and Olive Oil, Rolls, Coffee and Tea, and Cannoli for dessert.

The used music sale advertised in the April Bombarde will be postponed until the January 2002 meeting.

Come to Bethlehem and see!

Everyone should have received the material and registration forms for this year's Region III Convention. It will be held on June 24 - 27 in Bethlehem, PA. Because of the delay in sending the material, the deadline date has been extended to **April 30, 2001**. Please act quickly, register now, mail your form and check so that they are received on or before April 30th.

The registration fee includes admission to scheduled convention events, recitals, work-

shops, worship, Tuesday luncheon, and hospitality. The registration fee does not include accommodations. The Radisson Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main Street, Bethlehem, is the convention headquarters and site for registration and exhibits.

Registration questions may be directed to the Registrar, Thomas Cope by e-mail to tomcope2401@juno.com or by calling 610-434-1299. See you there.

Membership Renewal and Dues Collection

It is time to begin the membership renewal process for the year 2001-2002. The official membership year is from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002. Enclosed is a membership renewal application. Please fill out the bottom portion of the form to ensure that the chapter's membership records are accurate.

We welcome your new organist friends to join the Chapter this year. New membership applications are available through the AGO National Website, or by calling Carolyn Evens at 737-6027 or Kathy Myers at 774-4465.

National Headquarters would like us to complete the renewal membership process by June 30th, but no later than August 31st. Please renew now. Be the first to support your chapter's activities by sending in your membership dues and help build a healthy treasury.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to Kathy Myers on the death of her father, April 19, 2001.

Getting to Know Your Chapter Officers

The following is the eighth installment in a series introducing our chapter officers and board members.

Jane Miller, Nominating Committee Chair

Becoming an organist for me came at the urging of my home church (Friedens Lutheran, Friedens, PA) pastor's wife. She knew I played piano for many years and thought I might do well at the organ. As a 16-year-old, I would spend evenings and weekends practicing at the church while my friends were out having fun. For me, playing the organ was fun. And relaxing. Just me, the organ, church and God. Before long, I got the "I can't teach you anymore because you know as much as me," speech. So I spoke with one of the distinguished organists in Somerset, Harold Showman. That's when the challenges started! Bach's Little Preludes and Fugues was one of my first books. When I cranked the organ and played the Little Prelude in C at Trinity Lutheran in Somerset, I about fell over! It was the first time I experienced real acoustics that sounded good.

About that time the requests to play weddings started coming in. Bashful at the time, I'd say, "Oh just give me whatever you think is appropriate." (Carolyn Evens, I've learned better by now--I was only 16 then!) For my first wedding in 1982 I got \$25. One time I got nothing and it wasn't because I didn't do a good job--

they were just cheap. At a family wedding in 1984, my gift was Trivial Pursuit. I actually did like that. It wasn't until I went to college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania that I really started learning what my worth really was as an organist.

Under the wonderful wings of Carol Teti, my maturity level for music grew as did my repertoire. Even though I wasn't a music major, she would frequently have me play with the music majors at their departmental performances. She pushed me hard and I'm glad she did. My college roommate, Kimberly Hess, was an organ performance major and also studied with Dr. Teti. We would actually lay awake at night and talk about Bach and all the great musicians. Little did we know that our beloved teacher's life would be cut short; Carol Teti passed away last year of cancer. It was a very tough time for me. I think of her every single time I play the organ. I ask myself, what would Carol do with this piece? I really wish she were still here. But as her husband said, Carol's mission was to find more students and adults to pursue the organ because of the great shortage. To carry on the torch, imagine what we could do if each one of us found one person to study the organ?

Harrisburg AGO Competition Winner Announced

Sarah Thrush, a sophomore at Lebanon Valley College, was named the winner of the Harrisburg Chapter AGO competition. The competition, sponsored biennially by the Harrisburg chapter, is funded in part by the Cassel Organ Fund. Sarah will progress to the Young Artists Competition at the Regional Convention this summer in Bethlehem, PA. The competition is held on Saturday prior to the start of the convention.

Sarah, a native of Altoona, PA, became interested in the pipe organ at the age of 12 after attending a day long Pipe Organ Encounter sponsored by the Harrisburg AGO chapter. Through a scholarship sponsored by the Harrisburg chapter, Sarah started study of the organ with Josephine Freund. The next year she attended the week long POE in Charleston, WV. Sarah began her organ studies with Dr. Shelly

Moorman-Stahlman at the age of 15. She is currently the organist at the Hummelstown United Church of Christ.

Sarah's future goals are to teach at the collegiate level. Her hobbies include work, school, and serving as the resident assistant in her dormitory at LVC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash in Bank as of 3/19/2001	2,533.89
Total Receipts	0.00
Less Total Disbursements	1,615.90
Cash in Bank as of 4/19/2001	917.99
Scholarship Fund plus investments	12,478.89

Area Events

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church
101 North 23rd Street, Camp Hill

Keystone Concert Band, Donna Deaven, Conductor. A free-will offering will be received and childcare will be provided.
May 6, 4:00 p.m.

John Weaver, Organist Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church and Julliard School of Music, New York City. A free-will offering will be received to benefit the church's Pipe Organ Fund and childcare will be provided.
October 21, 4:00 p.m.

Derry Presbyterian Church
248 East Derry Road, Hershey

Spring Musical **It's Cool in the Furnace** featuring the Youth of Derry.
May 4 and 5, 7:00 p.m.

Westminster Choir College Concert Bell Choir
June 1, 7:30 p.m.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
22 South Sixth St., Lebanon

Festal Evensong by the **St. Luke's Festival Choir** and Organ Recital by **Paul Jacobs** of New Haven, CT.
May 20, 7:00 p.m.

Festal Evensong and Choirs Festival
June 10, 7:00 p.m.

Baughman Memorial United Methodist Church
Third & Bridge Streets, New Cumberland, PA
Sponsored by the Deborah Vowler Posner Concert Series

June 3, 3:00 p.m.
Sound of Roses orchestra—swing era "big band" music
Concert outside on the lawn. Bring your lawn chair! Free refreshments.

Market Square Presbyterian Church
20 South Second St., Harrisburg

Simon Preston in recital.
May 13, 7:30 p.m.

Position Available

Camp Curtain Memorial-Mitchell United Methodist Church, 2221 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110 is looking for an organist/choir director for the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Sanctuary choir has 15-20 people and they have a pipe organ. Music budget—as needed. This is a salaried position (\$5,000) with service rendered on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Service time is Sunday 10:45 a.m. with communion the first Sunday of the month. Contact Lynida Hudson at 540-1954 or the church at 909-6903 or 233-0335.

Recital Review

On the afternoon of March 31 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in College Park, MD, Mr. Geoffrey Shoffstall presented a recital of organ compositions to fulfill part of the requirement toward obtaining the degree of Master of Liturgical Music from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Mr. Shoffstall is a native of State College, PA. His organ teachers included Dr. Pierce Getz, professor-emeritus of Sacred Music at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA, and Dr. Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, assistant professor of Music at Lebanon Valley College. He presently studies with Dr. Dale Krider, FAGO, at Catholic University. While residing in State College, he had extensive piano study with Jane Colwell Schaefer and Phyllis Triolo.

The program included the Allegro from Widor's Symphony VI, Bach's first Trio Sonata, Buxtehude's Praeludium and Fuga in f-sharp minor (BuxWV 146), Bolcom's What a Friend We Have in Jesus, Messiaen's Apparition de

l'Eglise Eternelle, and Durufle's Prelude, Adagio et Choral Varie sur le theme du "Veni Creator".

This program was to have been presented at the Chapel of St. Vincent de Paul on the campus of Catholic University. Because the Chapel organ was not functioning properly, Mr. Shoffstall moved his recital to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. This church has a clear-speaking Lewis and Hitchcock organ and the church sanctuary is ideal for music. With less than twenty-four hours to make the necessary adjustments to a new venue, Mr. Shoffstall used his admirable powers of consummate musicianship and technical adaptability to perform a flawless program with ease.

Opening the program with the robust Allegro from the Widor Sixth was a sterling choice, for it alerted the audience to expect great things from the recitalist. He played this with musical authority and a sure grasp of the

(Continued on page 4)

Networking Lunch

will meet at **Isaac's** in West Shore Plaza on **Wednesday, May 9 at 11:30 a.m.** If you haven't been there, you are in for a treat when you see the menu, there's "Rainbow Parrot", "Prairie Chicken", "Salty Eagle", to name a few. Phone Doris Savage at 697-4042 by May 7 or email. We postponed our scheduled lunch there in March, so hopefully with Easter behind us, many of you will be able to come out for lunch.

Duquesne University Seminars

phone: 800-934-0159
 fax: 412-396-5479
 email: mumper@duq.edu
 web: www.duq.edu/music/
 summer2001.html
 on-campus housing: \$90-
 \$170/week

Courses

Choral Conducting:
 Techniques and Methods
 Brady Allred
 July 9-13

Gregorian Chant
 Lawrence Harris
 July 30-August 3

\$740/three credit course

Non-credit workshops

Handbells for Directors
 Donald Allured
 June 12-14
 \$200

Creative Hymn Playing
 David Cherwien
 June 18-19
 \$150

Organ Design and
 Maintenance
 Robert Fischer
 June 20-23
 \$225

Choral Skills, Sight Singing
 and Gregorian Chant
 Lawrence Harris
 July 25-27
 \$225

Recital Review

(Continued from page 3)

technique needed to transmit the excitement and sweeping grandeur of the piece.

The Lewis and Hitchcock organ was the perfect vehicle for the Trio Sonata. It responded well to the nuances of articulation evident in each of the voices. The tempo of the first movement was dancing and lively. The second movement glided by pensively, and the third, unlike so many interpretations (especially by guitarists!) did not race through to get it over with, but proceeded in a graceful, uplifting manner, enabling the listener to savor the genius written into each voice.

Both the Buxtehude Prelude and Fugue and the Bolcom Gospel Prelude were played with the requisite bravura. The "stylus fantasticus" color of the Buxtehude electrified both the performer and listener. The full harmonies and rocking rhythm of "What a Friend," in Mr. Shoffstall's capable hands and feet, painted a musical picture of a congregation carried away in praise of the Lord.

Following a very short intermission, Mr. Shoffstall returned to present the music of the two greatest contemporary French composers,

Olivier Messiaen and Maurice Durufle. The lives of both of these musicians were given in the service of the Church and these two compositions are some of the finest music written for and about the Church. Under the performer's expert guidance, the mighty chords of the Messiaen increased in volume, intensity and majesty to reveal to the listener Heaven and in its center, the Church Eternal.

Maurice Durufle's Prelude, Adagios and Choral Varie, coming after the Messiaen, brought the audience back to Earth, but in a manner enveloping one with a knowledge of God's love. This piece requires clear and precise manual dexterity and an appreciation of the subtle dynamic nuances in both the Prelude and Adagio. Mr. Shoffstall was not lacking in either of these requirements. His announcement of the chorale "Veni Creator," was solid but subdued, building through the following variations toward the final variation which left the listener thanking God for the gift He bestowed on this marvelous composer as interpreted by this brilliant and devoted performer.

S.D.St. John-Brainerd

From the Dean

(Continued from page 1)

sions. There will also be an opportunity to visit an organ factory and a fun evening at Hershey Park. Several events are open to the public. We hope that you will publicize these events in your bulletins and attend yourself.

Thank you to all that have already given financial assistance and have volunteered their help. If you have not volunteered, I hope you will do so soon.



Pipe Organ Encounter Events

Sunday, June 17, 7:00 p.m.

Organ Recital by Alan Morrison at Lebanon Valley College

Monday, June 18, 9:00-11:25

workshops (Moorman-Stahlman; Sutherland, Harrison)

Monday, June 18, 7:00 p.m.

Faculty Recital; LVC

Tuesday, June 19, 11:15

hymn festival (Mark Laubach); First Presbyterian Church in Lancaster

Tuesday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.

Faculty Recital; LVC

Wednesday, June 20, 9:00-10:45

workshops (Schleat, Getz)

Thursday, June 21, 9:00 a.m.

Recital (Sarah Thrush); Market Square, Harrisburg

Thursday, June 21, 10:40 a.m.

Recital (Paul Jacobs); Pine Street, Harrisburg

Friday, June 22, 2:00 p.m.

Student Recital; LVC

Obituary—Arnold Bowman

The following obituary first appeared in the Lancaster Chapter Newsletter.

Arnold Bowman died at the age of 93 a few weeks ago. A resident of Mount Gretna, Arnold was the retired Director of Music and Recreational Therapy of the Harrisburg State Hospital. He also had a career as an organist at churches in the Harrisburg area, which he ter-



This sketch is from "The Young Person's Guide to the Organ," available on the AGO website, www.agohq.org.

minated after spending 50 years at the console.

A member of the Harrisburg Chapter, he was also a member of ours [Lancaster] for some years and very often showed up at organ recitals in Lancaster. Before his Guild activities, he was an active member in the National

Association of Organists, an organization which was formerly a competitor of the Guild, but which went down in flames as a result of a financial scandal and ended by merging with the Guild in the latter 1930's.

A great raconteur, Arnold had a tremendous store of anecdotes to tell about musicians of yesteryear, many humorous, some ludicrous, all of them entertaining. Older Lancastrians who remember Dale Hershey as a similar fount of history need only be told that Arnold was easily Dale's equal in the recollection department. The writer will always be grateful to him for rescuing him from an extreme case of pre-recital jitters in 1965 by taking him to Red Rose (open on Sundays back then) for a dish of ice cream and a steady stream of hilarious stories of events then already in the distant past.

Arnold was a real people person, and that must have made his last years a great deprivation and trial for him. About 10 years ago he fell off his porch roof while repairing something, and never recovered his hale and hearty good health afterwards. Homebound and getting about with a walker, he did not want people to come and see him in that debilitated state, and became a virtual recluse.

Well, Gabriel finally blew his trumpet. The 93 long years, palmy times and unhappy ones alike, are finished. Many of Arnold's host of friends were already on the far shore, waiting to greet him on his arrival there. We who remain here remember with thanksgiving his life of service to others and to God through his two professions, and smile gently at the recollection of that tall, well-dressed gentleman embarked on some wonderful tale of another old timer caught up in the toils of some all-too-human foible.

Carl E. Schroeder

The Bombarde

Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
230 Coachman Lane
Palmyra, PA 17078

The Bombarde

published monthly by the
Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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The submission deadline for each edition of the Bombarde is the third Friday of the month. Whenever possible, submit your items in electronic format with minimal text formatting.

Deadline for the June newsletter is May 18.

Please send all submissions to:

*Ben Leiby
4150 C King George Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17109
e-mail: bleiby@psu.edu*

VISIT AGO ON THE WEB
www.agohq.org
