



Principal Pipings

Vol. 72, Issue 3 October, 2016

Message From the Dean

Congratulations, Lexington AGO! Our Fall programs are off to a great start! I extend a BIG “thank you” to all who planned, prepared and participated in September’s POE Celebration Dinner at Beaumont Presbyterian Church. Everyone in attendance that evening enjoyed a delicious catered meal, a special POE slideshow, beautiful music, special gift presentations and door prizes. The highlight, of course, was in welcoming four of our newest chapter members from last summer’s POE. They not only represent the future of our Chapter, but are a vital part of our present activities. If you haven’t yet met any of our POE Student Members, be sure to introduce yourself to them at upcoming chapter activities. Let’s do all we can to make them feel welcome and to integrate them into the life of our Chapter.

In addition to membership, our focus for the coming year will also be on AGO Certification opportunities. I hope to see many of you at our next program, scheduled for Saturday, October 15, at Southern Hills UMC. Our special guest will be Dr. Greg Gyllsdorff, AGO Great Lakes Region Education Coordinator. He will lead a workshop on preparing for AGO exams. Special emphasis will be placed on the Service Playing Certification. If you’ve ever wondered if AGO Certification is for you, the answer is YES! Join us for Dr. Gyllsdorff’s workshop, and find out why.

There’s much to be excited about as we head into Fall! Besides this month’s workshop, we will get together for another AGO Night Out on Friday, October 28, at Joe Bologna’s. Be sure to check the Calendar of Events, as well. You won’t want to miss a single one!

As always, thank you for your friendship and support of our Chapter -- the BEST AGO Chapter anywhere!

I’ll look forward to seeing you on October 15,

Larry Sharp

October Events

MON / 10.10.16

8.00p

Rodney Barbour, Organ

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY

SAT / 10.15.16

9.00a

**AGO Certification Workshop, Dr. Greg Gyllsdorff
Great Lakes Regional Education Coordinator**

Southern Hills UMC, Lexington, KY

SAT / 10.15.16

7.30p

**Magnificent Magnificats
Lexington Chamber Chorale**

Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

TUE / 10.18.16

12.05p

Schuyler Robinson, Organ

Asbury University, Wilmore, KY

FRI / 10.21.16

7.30p

**Duets: Baroque & Modern
Bach to Now Chamber Ensemble**

Maxwell St. Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

FRI / 10.21.16

8.00p

Ben Sollee, Cello

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

Tickets: Lyric Theater or www.ccclex.org/bensollee

SUN / 10.23.16

4.30p

**“BEAUTIFUL LIFE” Concert: Maureen Howell, Piano, Organ
Featuring guest musicians Jane Johnson, Nan McSwain,
Kevin Raybuck and friends from the UK Opera and
Vocal departments.**

Crestwood Christian Church, Lexington, KY

FRI / 10.28.16

6.30p

AGO Night Out

Joe Bologna's, 120 W. Maxwell St., Lexington, KY

Benefit Concert at Crestwood Christian Church

A free concert on Oct. 23 will be presented at Crestwood Christian Church. Lexington AGO member Maureen Howell has prepared the concert in memory of her son, Andrew Austin Howell, who died on October 23, 2010, while a horn student at CCM in Cincinnati. Donations will be accepted to benefit a scholarship fund in Andrew's memory.

November Events

SUN / 11.6.16

3.30p Concert

4.00p Evensong

Maxine Thevenot, Organ

All Souls Evensong, The Cathedral Choir

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

SUN / 11.6.16

5.00p

All Saints' Concert featuring the Fauré Requiem

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington, KY

TUE / 11.8.16

12.20p-12.50p

Glenna Metcalfe, Organ

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY

SAT / 11.19.16

9.30a Gather, 10.00 Program

Max Reger 100th Anniversary with Dr. Christopher Anderson

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

SUN / 11.20.16

3.00p

"Shaker Songs and Other American Hymn Treasures"

Madison Singers Fall Concert, Conductor: Dr. Stephen Bolster, Assistant Conductor/Accompanist: Gabriel Evans

First Christian Church, Richmond, KY

SUN / 11.27.16

5.00p

Christmas in the Great Hall, Lexington Chamber Chorale

Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

Next AGO Night Out

Our next scheduled AGO Night Out will be on Friday, October 28, 6:30 pm, at Joe Bologna's, 120 W. Maxwell Street. Come out and join a group of your AGO Friends and guests for pizza and drinks! When you arrive, simply ask for the AGO Table up in the loft area. This is the weekend before Halloween, so costumes are optional! Mark this on your calendar, so you won't miss the fun! Spouses and guests are welcome. See you there!

Guest Accommodations Urgently Needed!

If you are one of our Lexington members with a spare guest room, please consider hosting one (or more) of our upcoming AGO Guests for a single night this fall. Guest accommodations are urgently needed for the evenings of Friday, October 14, and Friday, November 18. The Lexington AGO is known for its hospitality, so please be in touch with Larry Sharp as soon as possible, if you are able to help in this way. Thank you!

New Members

Nancy Emswiler (new member), Robert Williamson (dual member with Louisville Chapter)

Professional Development

October 15 Workshop on Professional Certification

Please mark Saturday, October 15, 9:00-12:00, on your calendars. Dr. Greg Gyllsdorff, FAGO, ChM, will be conducting a special “hands-on” AGO Certification Workshop at Southern Hills UMC, 2356 Harrodsburg Road. Greg is the Organist and Choirmaster at Trinity Episcopal Church, Rockford, IL. He also holds the position of Education Coordinator for the AGO Great Lakes Region.

Copies of the most recent Certification Requirements will be distributed, along with copies of the Examination Hymn Booklet. Greg will also have copies of old exams, plus examples of some of the literature -- in short, everything you need to get started!

If you’ve ever wondered what AGO Certification is all about, here’s your chance to learn and ask questions. By taking an AGO exam, you will sharpen and improve your own musical skills, as well as strengthen our Chapter as a whole.

Here are some “fun facts” provided to us by Paul Wolfe, AGO Certification Program Administrator. At present, there are 1641 active, voting Guild members who hold certification, or 11.6% of the National Membership. Here’s how it breaks down, by examination:

35% Service Playing Certificate (SPC)	7% Associate (AAGO)
34% Colleague (CAGO)	16% Fellow (FAGO)
7% Choir Master (ChM)	

Here in Lexington, 15 members are certified out of a membership of 119. That’s 12.6%, which is only slightly higher than the national percentage. Unlike the national figures, our local breakdown is skewed away from the Service Playing and upper level exams, with the largest percentage being Colleagues:

13.3% (2/15) SPC	6.7% (1/15) AAGO
66.7% (10/15) CAGO	6.7% (1/15) FAGO
13.3% (2/15) ChM**	

(**Does not total 100% as one member holds both ChM and CAGO)

In order to raise our Chapter’s percentage of Certified Members to 15%, we would need three newly-certified members, at any level. This seems like a reachable goal! We would need for nine members to take and pass exams to reach a Chapter goal of 20%.

Professional Development

10 Reasons to Become Certified

1. The AGO provides a program for you to develop and improve your organ skills. Preparation for the exams strengthens you in the following areas: sight-reading, transposition, modulation, improvisation, accompaniment and hymn playing.
2. Preparation is completely flexible. You may study on your own, work with a teacher, or prepare with a group.
3. The Certification process is anonymous and fair. Examiners never see you and don't know who you are. You could be a high school student or a college professor.
4. You will know exactly what to expect at the time of the exam. All testing procedures are spelled out in detail in a Manual of Procedures.
5. Many excellent preparation materials are available. Copies of exams from previous years are available.
6. You may repeat an exam, or section of an exam, if necessary. Many of those who have earned certificates did so on their second, third or fourth try.
7. The cost is modest, especially when compared to university tuition.
8. There are some attractive side benefits. Upon passing an exam, you will receive a certificate and your name will appear in TAO along with other successful candidates.
9. An increasing number of churches and schools recognize the AGO Certification Program and may offer higher salaries for musicians with AGO certificates.
10. The most important reason to become certified, of course, is that you will be a better organist and musician. Preparation will make you more skilled and confident. The certificate will give you the respect of your employer and peers, along with a justifiable feeling of accomplishment.

(Adapted from AGO Certification Program: A Chapter Guide for Promotion, Preparation, and Participation, www.agohq.org)

AGO Trivia Contest

CONGRATULATIONS to Anne Willis for correctly answering our very first AGO Trivia Question! Anne, who also works and resides in Winchester, recalled that the only other LexAGO Chapter Dean from Winchester was Ruth Osborne, who served 63 years ago, from approximately 1953-54. Through the years, Ruth Osborne, Anne and I have all served as the organist at Winchester's First Christian Church, a position currently held by LexAGO member Nancy Dunn. For Anne's prize, she won a FREE lunch at JK's Restaurant at Forest Grove in Winchester!

October's AGO Trivia Question: Now that everyone has his/her new Chapter Yearbook in hand, which Lexington-area church is home to the greatest number of LexAGO Members?

Be the first to contact Dean Larry Sharp at agolarry@att.net, and you will win a prize! Good luck!

AGO News Briefs

1. Northern Illinois University has announced that Dr. Angela Hurley is the 2016 recipient of the James and Helen Merritt Distinguished Service Award for contributions to the philosophy of education. She will deliver the 21st Merritt Address, "The Importance of All We Do Not See," on October 20. This award is bestowed on scholars whose work has influenced thought and practice at the national and international levels. Angela is the organist at Walnut Hill Church in Fayette County and serves on the LexAGO Executive Committee. Congratulations, Angela!

2. We have recently been informed by Karl Bruhn, Great Lakes Regional Councillor, and Glenna Metcalfe, Kentucky District Convener, that there is a newly-organized third AGO Chapter in Kentucky. The Chapter's official name will be "Heartland of Kentucky," and its membership will span the region from Elizabethtown to Bowling Green. While small in size, Karl feels there will be an excellent chance for future chapter growth. Best wishes to the new Heartland Chapter!

3. For an update on the AGO and the Federal Trade Commission's investigation, please see Executive Director James Thomashower's article in the October TAO. As part of a settlement agreement, all AGO Chapters will be required to discontinue the publishing of salary guidelines and model contract provisions.

Chapter News

New Chapter Yearbooks

Thanks to the efforts of Yearbook Editor Brian Hunt, the new 2016-17 Chapter Yearbook is complete -- and it looks great! Thanks, Brian, for giving of your time to help put the new Yearbook into the hands of the LexAGO Membership in such a timely manner. Yearbooks were available for distribution at the September 24 Dinner Meeting, and have also been mailed out to the members not present that evening. Please contact Brian Hunt or Larry Sharp if you have not received your copy. Additionally, if there are corrections to be made to your Yearbook listing (address, phone, email, or church position/affiliation), please contact Larry Sharp as soon as possible. A Yearbook Addendum will be planned for later in the year.

The Lexington AGO Mailbox

Dear American Guild of Organists,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers for Bill's visitation and funeral. The colors were gorgeous and provided comfort at a much needed time. Many, many thanks,

--Persis Elwood and her children

Dear Larry,

Just a quick note to say "thank you" for all the hard work you and your colleagues did for the Lexington POE. What a great week! I know it will have a lasting impression on the students.

Have a restful remainder of the summer!

--Laura Ellis, Gainesville, Florida
POE Faculty

Bad Music Joke of the Month

Q: How many choir directors does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: Who knows? No one ever watches the choir director!

Please submit your joke to Newsletter Editor Scott Heydinger or Dean Larry Sharp.

A Note From 2016 NYACOP Winner Katelyn Emerson

My first visit to Lexington was a mere five years ago, for the 2011 Region V AGO convention, “way back when” the AGO still had nine numbered regions. This was a whirlwind of a trip where most of my time was spent either at the stunning Buzard organ in First Presbyterian Church or at the Marriott hotel, hurriedly trying to plan registrations and fix sticky notes as I competed in the Regional Competition for Young Organists (RCYO; the AGO’s competition for organists under the age of 23). I still remember the Bourbon pecan pie with which I celebrated finally finishing all the sticky “paperwork” on my scores! A year later, I returned to see many of you and, once again, enjoy the organ First Presbyterian Church, where I discovered new sounds on the organ that I hadn’t had the leisure to when under the time constraints of 3 hours of practice times.

Since that competition, the whirlwind has continued and, while the details would take several pages of prose, I can assure you that I’ve loved every minute of it. Only three months ago – exactly five years after your fabulous regional convention – I was privileged win yet another AGO competition: the National Young Artists’ Competition for Organ Performance (NYACOP). This is the Guild’s competition for organists ages 23 – 33, and offers us the phenomenal opportunity of meeting others who love music as much as we do and experience previously unknown instruments in the locale of the summer’s AGO national convention. The format of this year’s competition was almost entirely new, with “the powers that be” reconstructing it to allow the organists to select repertoire that would demonstrate their strengths and the presumed beauty of an unfamiliar instrument. As someone who loves doing exactly this, I was thrilled to make it to the semifinals (after a prescribed recorded round) alongside eight other phenomenal musicians. In early June, we had the privilege of getting to know the 2010 Taylor & Boody at the Church of the Transfiguration in Dallas, Texas for the penultimate competition round. Besides exploring this beautiful instrument (albeit in the two very short 1.5 hours practice sessions) and getting to know the other organists from around the country, perhaps the most exciting part for me was experiencing reverse culture shock and jetlag, as I had flown directly to Texas from the end of my Fulbright year in France!

After the last note had been played and the results announced, all nine competitors and several of the jury members boarded a bus, furnished with boxed dinners and several bottles of wine, that took us the five-hour drive to Houston. As for me, I was most anxious to draw practice times since we would arrive around midnight and one of the five finalists would be stuck with 8AM practice time the next day!

Mailbox (cont'd)

The finals took place on the same organ and in the same church as they did in 1988, when Christopher Young took home first prize. The 1981 Schantz (rebuilt 1997) in St. Paul's United Methodist Church allowed the jury and audience to watch each competitor play their selected recital program and the competition was not blind, a strategic move by competition organizers to acknowledge how much the visual impacts the aural in performance. The imposed piece was a collaborative work with oboe by Chicago-based composer Morgan Simmons. For me, this was probably the most enjoyable part of the program; working with the phenomenal oboist and performing before the composer!

When the results were announced, I could not believe it that they had said my name, and the photographs show the shock and thrills that I was feeling. The responses and level of support throughout and since the competition has been indescribable and I simply feel fortunate to be able to share the music that I loved – music that had become such an intimate part of me – with all of those in attendance. Knowing that this music touched the listeners was the true prize and one that I treasure daily.

With fall upon us, I have now landed in downtown Boston, where I took up the position of Associate Organist & Choirmaster at the amazing Church of the Advent on September 1, where we have a fully-professional choir, a volunteer choir, and a stunning 1936 Aeolian-Skinner that I hope you will have the chance to explore on your next trip to Boston. Every day here has brought unforgettable experiences and new things to learn – which will probably result in a memory overload in just a few short weeks! Remarkably, this position also grants me both the facility of travelling for the concerts that I have been fortunate to receive and nearly unlimited practice time, the latter of which I'm especially grateful for after the challenges of finding rehearsal time in Europe.

I can't express how grateful I am for the support that the AGO has given me, and how thankful I am for all of my Lexington friends for your support. The encouragement that you so freely gave five years ago had a profound influence on my confidence to continue on this path. Having only just joined the chapter a month ago, I received the first newsletter for September and am astounded by the incredible programming – what a variety! Your chapter's enthusiasm and energy are things we all should aspire to when looking to share our love of music and the pipe organ and I'll be taking notes every time that newsletter arrives in my inbox.

With all of that said, I hope you're feeling a pull to come visit me in Boston! The organ bench is always open to each of you, and I am only an email away. Best wishes for the start of a wonderful 2016 fall season!

katelyn.emerson@gmail.com, <http://www.katelynemerson.com>



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Evensongs

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4:00pm Evensongs with Cathedral Choirs

October 2

February 26

November 6

March 19

January 22

May 21



Friday, December 2

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*
with the Cathedral Choir

*For ticket reservations visit
www.ccclex.org/messiah*



Sunday, December 18

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
with the Cathedral Choir

Wednesday, December 21

Noon *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten
Roseanna Shafer, harp and the Cathedral Girls
Choir



Palm Sunday, April 9

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* with the Choir of
Men and Boys



*Please visit www.ccclex.org to view the
complete list of events.*

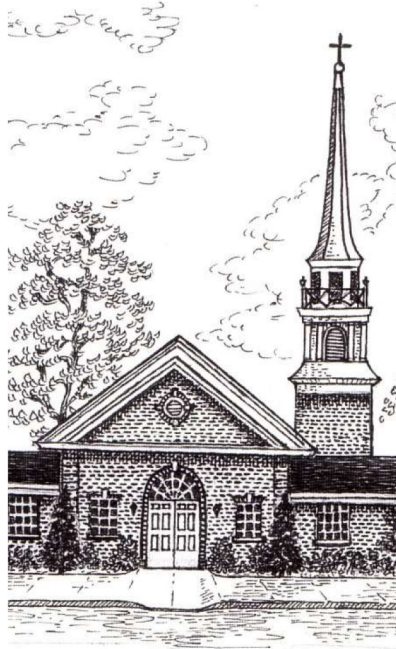
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2016 - 17 Music

at

Beaumont Presbyterian Church

*1070 Lane Allen Road
Lexington, KY 40504*



Dr. Wayne Gebb
Music Director

Dr. Larry Sharp
Organist

Sunday, October 9	Merrilee Elliott, flute Mozart, Faure'
Sunday, November 6	David Powell, oboe Telemann, Lynn Trapp
Sunday, November 27 Advent I	Bailey Yates, violin Rutter, Dandrieu, Bach
Sunday, December 4 Advent II	Advent Lessons & Carols SCAPA String Ensemble
Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Premiere of Original Organ Composition by John S. Dixon
Lent, 2017 (TBA)	SCAPA String Ensemble
Sunday April 16 Easter	Brass Ensemble with Beaumont Choir

www.bpclex.org

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Music & Liturgy at Good Shepherd

9 October 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Organ concert - Dr. Schuyler Robinson,
followed by Festal Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

6 November 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

All Saints' Concert featuring the Fauré *Requiem*

18 December 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

17 February 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Organ Concert - Bruce Neswick

18 February 2017, 10:00 – 12:30

Open choir rehearsal under the direction of Bruce Neswick
The choirs of Good Shepherd; St. John's, Versailles; & St. Michael's

19 February 2017

Choir Festival

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist & 5:00 p.m. Festal Choral Evensong
under the direction of Bruce Neswick

19 March 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Organ concert – Dr. Robert Bozeman,
followed by Solemn Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

7 May 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Oboe concert by Dr. ToniMarie Marchioni,
followed by Festal Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

The Reverend Brian L. Cole, Rector
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