

# The Organizer

*American Guild of Organists Atlanta Chapter*

*Tuesday, April 9*

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

4393 Garmon Road

Atlanta, GA 30327

(404) 266-1018

Jane Butler, Host

**6:00 PM Punch Bowl**

**6:30 PM Dinner/Meeting**

**7:45 & 8:30 PM**

**Workshops**

*Reservation Deadline*

Thursday, April 4

(404) 233-7206

[johnsabine@earthlink.net](mailto:johnsabine@earthlink.net)

\$10.00

Directions available at [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)

**Annual Workshops April 9 at St. Dunstan's**

Each year the chapter sponsors a night of workshops on topics of interest to members. This year there will be two workshops -- one dealing with AGO certification and examinations, and one dealing with current issues in church music. The Certification workshop will be conducted by **Adele McKee** and **Don Larson**. The workshop on Excellence in Worship will be a panel discussion chaired by **Brad Cunningham**. Please see page 7 for a description of these workshops.

Looking ahead to May 14, the annual Guild Service will be at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church. Before dinner, we will hear a recital by **Gwyn Bacon**. She was one of our Scholarship Winners for this year. The Concert will be at 5:30, Punch Bowl at 6:15 and Dinner at 6:30. For the May meeting, the cost is \$15.

## **Slate of Officers for 2002-2003**

**Dean: Phil Parkey**

**Subdean: Joanne Brown**

**Secretary: Arden Starnes**

**Treasurer: Mike Hutcherson**

**Auditor: David Ritter**

**Registrar: Jim Wingate**

**Newsletter Editor: Betty Williford**

**Chaplain: Ken Boone**

**At-Large Members (Vote for two)**

**Sarah Martin Dan Pruitt**

**David Stills Carolyn Thorsen**

Absentee ballot forms and biographical information will appear in the next newsletter.

### ***Important!***

Write-in nominations may be made by petition of five Chapter members in good standing and delivered to the Secretary (Cindy Forbes) by April 20. The election will take place at the May 14 meeting at Holy Innocents Episcopal Church.

Betty Williford, Editor

Phone (770) 934-0238

<bettylouw@mindspring.com>

Liane Hunter, Graphics

Deadline for *May* issue: *April 20*

Advertising space available: \$20 per quarter page

### ***February Pipedreams***

9:30 PM Sundays on WABE FM 90.1

### ***In Sympathy***

*Two chapter members have recently lost their fathers.*

*We extend sincere sympathy to Michael Shake and Melle Sensibaugh.*

### ***2002 Dues***

Dues for the 2002-2003 season will be increased by \$10. Dues are set by the National Council. For an explanation of the increase, please see pages 3 and 54 of the October 2001 issue of *The American Organist*.

A dues form is included in this issue of *The Organizer*, and it is also available on the chapter website.

### ***Executive Board Meetings***

The Executive Board will meet at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer at 8:30 AM on *April 20*.

All meetings of the Executive Board are open to chapter members.

### ***Yearbook Update***

Carolyn Scott

4390 Hopkins Lake Drive

Duluth, GA 30096

(770) 441-2541 (pages 14 AND 63)

e-mail: [tscotte@earthlink.net](mailto:tscotte@earthlink.net)

### ***Chapter Scholarship***

The chapter scholarship competition will be held, beginning at 9:30 AM, on Friday, April 12, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. The church will be available for practice on Thursday, April 11.

There are two applicants in the graduate division, and one applicant in the undergraduate division.

Members are invited to hear the competition.

To contribute to the scholarship fund, contact *Dr. Robert Poovey*, chairman, at (404) 869-1647 or (404) 873-7620.

### ***Important Information***

AGO Voice Mail (404) 659-2462

Chapter Web site: <[www.agoatlanta.org](http://www.agoatlanta.org)>

National Web site: <[www.AGOHQ.org](http://www.AGOHQ.org)>

### ***Lawyer Needed!***

If you are a lawyer and willing to advise the executive board on some matters, please contact Dean Sarah Hawbecker.

### ***WPBA Volunteers***

Will Rogers and Steve Ortlip recently answered phones in WPBA's spring pledge drive. If you would be willing to represent the chapter in this way, please contact Will Rogers at (770) 397-9430 or <[wrogers2@bellsouth.net](mailto:wrogers2@bellsouth.net)>.

### ***Share Your Bench!***

Organists need to have access to an organ in order to maintain their skills. If your church's organ might be available for this purpose, please contact Sarah Hawbecker.

## ***From the Dean***

As I write, we have not yet entered Holy Week and all the responsibilities it brings to all church musicians. It can be a stressful time, with extra services and certainly extra music. At this and other busy times, we can go about our duties grumbling and exhausted, or we can be thankful for the gifts that God has given us. What a privilege it is, whether church music is for us a full-time, part-time or volunteer calling, to lead others in worship. Music takes us places where mere words cannot. As the poet John Dryden asks, "What passion cannot music raise and quell?" Later in his poem "Song for St. Cecilia's Day" he writes:

*But oh! What art can teach,*

*What human voice can reach*

*The sacred organ's praise?*

*Notes inspiring holy love,*

*Notes that wing their heavenly ways*

*To mend the choirs above.*

*Orpheus could lead the savage race,*

*And trees unrooted left their place*

*Sequacious of the lyre:*

*But bright Cecilia raised the wonder higher;*

*When to her organ vocal breath was given*

*An angel heard, and straight appeared -*

*Mistaking earth for heaven.*

Perhaps these centuries-old words will renew and inspire you.

Another way to be renewed and inspired is to attend our meeting on April 9 at St. Dunstan's. Remember that the Guild was founded as an educational and collegial institution. Both of this month's workshops will be worthwhile, practical and applicable to all our members, who come from varying educational backgrounds, denominations and experience. Read more about these workshops elsewhere in this issue.

The Nominating Committee has announced its slate of officers, also listed in this issue. Write-in nominations may be made by petition signed by five Chapter members in good standing and delivered to the Secretary,

Cindy Forbes, by April 20. Next month's Organizer will have a ballot, so that members who cannot attend the May meeting election will have the opportunity to vote. The regular election will take place at the May dinner meeting, with officers being installed that same evening. Many thanks go to Michael Morgan and his Nominating Committee for all their hard work!

Finally, remember to register for the National Convention held July 2-6 in Philadelphia. You can find information on the convention in *The American Organist* and on the national AGO website: [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org).

I look forward to seeing you on April 9 at St. Dunstan's!

Sarah Hawbecker

AGO will present its Distinguished Composer Award to **CARL SCHALK** at its Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 6, 2002, during the National Convention in Philadelphia.

## ***WORKSHOP No. 1***

### *Workshop on Guild Certification*

*Workshop faculty: Adele McKee & Don Larson*

Two identical 45 minute sessions covering skills and music in Guild exams will be given at the April 9th AGO meeting. You may come to either and use the other time to attend the other program. (There is to be a break at half way when people may change seminars.)

Anyone contemplating taking a Guild exam will find this information very helpful. (Anyone wishing to take an exam this year needs to send the application to New York headquarters with Xerox of it to Adele here by April 1st. Don't wait on the meeting before taking this step -- in will be too late.) This program will give very specific helps for the future.

The skills one pulls together for the AGO exams are all excellent for a church organist to cultivate, and they can be done while on the job! Hymn playing, accompanying skills (both for anthems and for solos), improvising, transposing -- one gains experience in all of these areas PLUS learning more good organ repertory. AND -- if an instance this year is noted, a church looking for an organist chooses the one still learning. (The CAGO got the job!) Having a Guild degree adds weight to any resume. Come and see for yourself what is involved Tuesday night as Don Larson and Adele McKee explain what is involved and what the gain.

## **DOOR PRIZE DRAWING!**

Attend the Workshop on Guild Certification

and you may be the lucky winner of

**POE2000 T-SHIRT**

**(\$10 value)**

***WORKSHOP No. 2***

In Pursuit of Excellence:

Integrity in Worship

Panel discussion members: Marlon G. Hurst, Reverend Michael D. Bush, Reverend Gini Norris-Lane & Reverend Bradley Schmeling

Moderator: Brad Cunningham

AGOATLANTA will offer a panel discussion workshop on April 9, 2002 for members who are interested in hearing ideas on how to take proactive steps in moving beyond market-driven worship.

Panel discussion members support the need for excellence and substance in organ and choral music, and believe that liturgy and music serve the mission and ministry of the church and do not exist as an end unto themselves.

The workshop will be divided into two different 45-minute sessions, each including a panel discussion followed by questions.

**DOOR PRIZES!**

1. Attend the Workshop

In Pursuit of Excellence: Integrity in Worship

and you may be the lucky winner of

**POE2000 T-SHIRT**

**(\$10 value)**

2. Drawing for one person to receive

Dinner reservation for one (1) guest

at the May clergy appreciation night

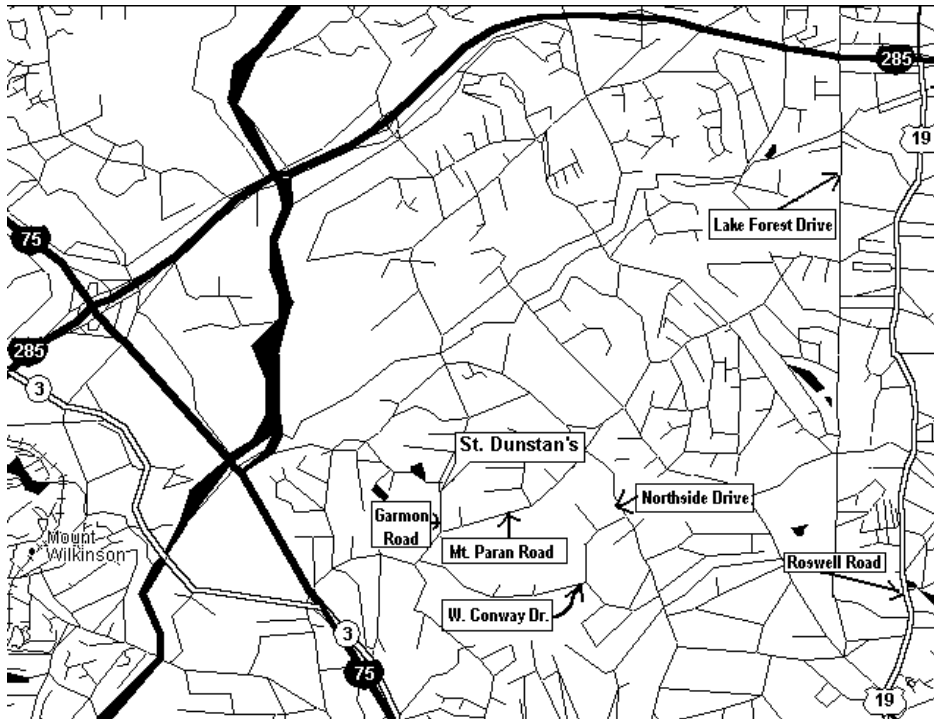
3. *Drawing for one person to receive*

\$50.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE

for the purchase of new organ music

*[Must be present for both sessions to win.]*

***I Can't Believe I Heard the WHOLE Thing!***



On Saturday, March 9, Paul Jacobs played the complete organ works of Olivier Messiaen at St. Philip's Cathedral. Paul was one of the many talented participants in the North American Round of the Calgary Competition at Spivey Hall in 1998. I was one of two full-time volunteers that week, and I have been interested in following the activities of the participants ever since. I am not qualified to write a review. I had no idea that I would or could stay through the entire 8 1/2 hour event. It was soon apparent that this was to be a very special day. The attendance was much better than I had expected, and grew throughout the day. I was disappointed that many organists were not present. There is much more that I could say, but space is limited! I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to meet some of the finest by helping with the next competition at Spivey Hall in May.

Betty Williford, Editor



