



The Organizer

Monthly Newsletter
The Atlanta Chapter
AMERICAN GUILD
of ORGANISTS
FEBRUARY 2008

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Mission Statement

"The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historical and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members."

Dr. Ann Labounsky has earned an enviable international reputation as a virtuoso performer and improviser at the organ, and particularly, as a leading American disciple of Jean Langlais. From 1962 to 1964 Ann Labounsky lived and studied in Paris as a recipient of a Fulbright Grant. As an organ student of André Marchal and Jean Langlais, she immersed herself in the French organ tradition; she studied most of Langlais's compositions with the composer, and played them for him on the organ at [Sainte-Clotilde](#). In 1964, while she was Langlais's student at the [Schola Cantorum](#), she earned the Diplôme de Virtuosité with mention maximum in both performance and improvisation. Additional study was with Suzanne Chaisemartin and Marcel Dupré. She was awarded the diploma with the highest honors at the organ competition at the Soissons Cathedral.

Dr. Labounsky has performed world premieres of many of Langlais's compositions and works by American composers. In addition to extensive performances in the United States, she has made concert tours of Europe, performing at Sainte-Clotilde in Paris on each tour, as well as in Brittany, the Netherlands, Germany, the Ukraine, and Scotland. Her performances have been broadcast over the French National Radio as well as public radio stations in the United States. Her recital credits include performances at the Cathedral of Notre Dame and the Basilica of Ste. Clotilde in Paris; the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC; the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York; Grace Cathedral in San Francisco; the Cathedral of St. Paul in Pittsburgh; and the Cathedral of St. Paul in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Ann Labounsky, organist
"Life and Music of Jean Langlais"

PEACHTREE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
150 Peachtree Street NE at Spring
Atlanta, Georgia
404.876.5535

Host: Herb Buffington

6:00 pm Punch Bowl
6:30 pm Dinner & Meeting
8:00 pm Recital

Dinner Reservations (\$12)
due by 2/7/08

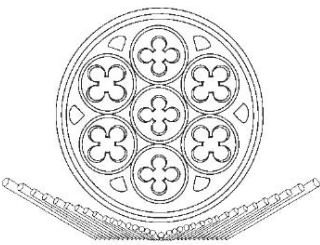
Ann Labounsky's early training was under the direction of Paul J. Sifler and John LaMontaine in New York City. She was awarded a Bachelor of Music degree from the [Eastman School of Music](#) where she was a student of David Craighead, a Master of Music degree from the [University of Michigan](#) where her teacher was Marilyn Mason, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Musicology from the [University of Pittsburgh](#).

Miss Labounsky is the author of a [biography of Langlais](#), *Jean Langlais: The Man and His Music*, published in 2000 by Amadeus Press. In 2001 she developed a multi-media presentation of the life of Jean Langlais based on this biography. Mist Media, Inc. has further developed this multi-media presentation in the form of a [DVD](#) sponsored by the [Los Angeles AGO chapter](#).

- continued on page 4 -

In This Issue

AGO Chapter at a Glance	2/7
Dean's Message	3
Dinner Reservations Info	7
Dinner Menu	2
Employment/Positions	5
Events Calendar	6
Mixtures	2/4



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A Note on April's Student Recital

The chapter program at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Atlanta, on the morning of Saturday, April 12, 2008 will feature student recitalists. Please pass the word along. We welcome students of all levels but they *must* be currently studying with a member of the Atlanta chapter in order to perform. Also, compositions may not exceed ten minutes in total length so that more students may be included.

I look forward to hearing from you with your recommendations!!

James F. Mellichamp
Sub Dean

Dr. Carol Williams

in concert

**Atlanta First United
 Methodist Church**
360 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia
404.524.6614

*on the new 93-rank V-manual
 A.E. Schlueter Pipe Organ*

Sunday, March 9, 2008
3:00 pm

Carol Williams is the first woman to hold the famed organist's position at the Spreckels Organ in Balboa Park, San Diego, California, as San Diego Civic Organist and Artistic Director of the Spreckels Organ Society - and she is the first female civic organist appointed anywhere in the United States.

Come, join us at THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP

2744 Peachtree Rd. NW
 Atlanta, GA 30305-2920

Call 404.365.1050 for more information.

Sunday, 3 February

3:15 PM / RECITAL

Christopher Harrel, *organ*

(St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Coral Gables, FL)
music by Wyton, Duruflé, Messiaen and Michel

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Darke, Dyson and Mendelssohn

Wednesday, 6 February

7 PM - Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist

Cathedral Schola

Sunday, 10 February

3:15 PM / RECITAL

Dr. Leon W. Crouch, III, *organ*

(Converse College, Spartanburg, SC)
music by Buxtehude, Eben, Linker and Ives

4 PM / Holy Eucharist in Honor of Absolom Jones
 Choir of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

Saturday, 16 February

7:30 PM / CONCERT

WALKIN' and SWINGIN': The Sacred and Secular
 Music of Mary Lou Williams
Jazz Orchestra Atlanta

Sunday, 17 February

3:15 PM / RECITAL

Marko Petricic, *organ*

(Indianapolis, IN)
music by Messiaen and Guilmant

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Hogan, Tavener and Schütz

Sunday, 24 February

3:15 PM / RECITAL

David Brock, *organ* (St. Patrick's/ Incline Vlg., NV)

music by Mendelssohn and Langlais

4 PM / EVENSONG

Choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Atlanta

Tuesday, 26 February

7:30 PM / CONCERT

The Atlanta Singers
 tickets \$15

A Message from the DEAN

Up until this morning, I wasn't sure what to say in my Dean's Column. There was such a wealth of music and inspiration (not to mention exhaustion!) during the Advent and Christmas seasons that I had a wonderful treasury upon which to draw, but just to talk about promise and fulfillment was too predictable. The joy of the season was compromised only by the disappointment I experienced in not being able to join so many of you at the once-in-a-blue moon Christmas party at Callanwolde.

Then, this morning leading worship at Columbia Seminary, where I serve as musician, something so simple – yet so profound – happened to me, that as the staunch Presbyterian I am, I thought must surely have been predestined.

Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, who serves as one of our worship professors, was leading a Book of Order morning prayer. We had sung a hymn and the Song of Zacharias, and Kim had canted a stunning Psalm 51, asking God to create clean hearts within each of us.

When she came to the prayer portion of the service, Kim stood at the table and, raising both of her hands to God, asked on our behalf for forgiveness and mercy and grace and blessings.

As I watched her standing in that posture, three images came to mind which made me think of our ministry as church musicians.

First, I thought of sacrifice, as with her arms outspread, I was reminded of the crucifixion (from my own Christian perspective), and of the symbolic giving of ourselves for those who may not share my faith – the commitment asked of us in our leadership of worship, how much is given, and how great and intangible are the fruits of our labor.

Second, her arms formed for me the image of a chalice – whether bearing the Word of God in the Sacrament of Communion or signifying the abundant gifts of God's providence. Either way, Kim seemed to embrace the congregation in the same way I like to think of our music enfolding them with the power and love of God.

And last, her arms and hands seemed to form a funnel, through which the Spirit of God was captured and then focused on the congregation. That image again spoke to me of how our music, which Martin Luther defined as a "fair and glorious gift of God," finds expression through our hands and feet and voices every holy day throughout the seasons of the year.

It is my hope that as we embark on the journey of another cycle of holy days (and isn't every time the sun rises and sets a "holy day"), we will never lose sight of our gift of music, and lift our hands in prayer, like Kim, to remind us of its sacrifice and its sacrament.

*Michael Morgan,
Dean*

In Memoriam

RON CARLISLE - 1942-2007
Long-time AGO Member, Remembered



The life of Ron Carlisle, who died last month following an accident in his home, was celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Philip on December 10, 2007.

Ron had recently retired as a beloved Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics at Oglethorpe University. For many years, he had assisted the Chapter in maintaining the membership records on the computer, and served the Chapter in providing mailing labels to announce concerts and recitals, mail newsletters, and keep us in touch with one another in the years before e-mails and websites. His service to the Chapter is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Susan Carlisle, Ron's wife, has suggested that suitable memorials would be contributions to the Oglethorpe University Museum of Art to be used to purchase Japanese art for the museum's permanent collection. Ron became a devotee of Japanese history, art, and culture following his extensive stay in the Tofukuji Monastery in Kyoto. He was also a disciple of the Monastery's Abbot, Fukushima Keido.

His quiet nature, his love of music and the arts, and his dedicated service to the American Guild of Organists will be greatly missed.

"Rest eternal grant him, O Lord."



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- continued from page 1 -

Dr. Labounsky is an active member of both the [American Guild of Organists](#) and the [National Association of Pastoral Musicians](#). In the American Guild of Organists she holds the Fellow certificate and has served as Councillor for Education and Director of the National Committee on Improvisation, and as a member of the Certification Committee. Currently she also serves as national Director of Certification for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

Dr. Labounsky has recorded the [complete organ works](#) of Jean Langlais for the Musical Heritage Society: a project encompassing 25 compact disks which will be released in one package in honor of the Langlais centennial; release is currently scheduled for 2008. To date, eighteen CDs have been released with critical acclaim in leading publications including The New York Times, The American Organist, and The Diapason. As Chair of Organ and Sacred Music at [Duquesne University](#), Pittsburgh, Dr. Labounsky oversees both the undergraduate and graduate programs in sacred music. She is also Organ Artist-in-Residence at [First Lutheran Church](#) in Pittsburgh.

Ann Labounsky is the mother of three children and four grandchildren, and resides in the North Hills area of Pittsburgh with her husband, Lewis M. Steele, Jr., CPA.

For the Atlanta Chapter program, Dr. Labounsky will discuss her study with Langlais, the recording project, and the making of her highly acclaimed video, *"The Life and Music of Jean Langlais."* Audience members will be encouraged to ask questions about Langlais, his music, and its performance/interpretation.

This forum will be followed by viewing of the video *"The Life and Music of Jean Langlais."* The DVD was released November 19, 2006, and features Ann Labounsky as narrator and performer, and has been professionally produced based on her research and scholarship.

During the viewing of the video, Dr. Labounsky will perform the following selections by Langlais on the magnificent instrument at Peachtree Christian Church:

- "Incantation pour un jour saint"
- "Boys Town Place of Piece"
- "Scherzo Cats"
- "Fete"

A note from AGO HQ

Dear Friends,

The **early registration deadline of January 31** is rapidly approaching for the 2008 AGO National Convention, **June 22-26**, in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. You can take full advantage of the discounted early registration rates and get all the details about the convention at <http://www.ago2008.org>.

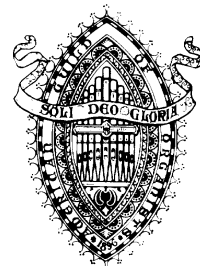
Here are a few convention events you may find particularly interesting:

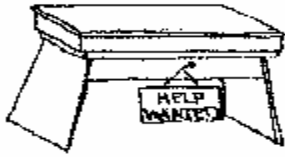
1. An evening concert, choral matins, and evensong with the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir of London.
2. A special, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a presentation of Pipedreams Live! hosted by American Public Media's Michael Barone. This will mark the official start of the International Year of the Organ.
3. Major new works from internationally renowned composers, plus the U.S. premiere of the *Te Deum* by Siegfried Matthus at the St. Paul Cathedral with massed choirs and orchestra, a performance that is NOT TO BE MISSED.
4. Great instruments including organs by Dobson, Casavant, Fisk, Blackington, Lively-Fulcher, and Schantz among many others in great spaces including St. Paul's Cathedral, Basilica of St. Mary, Central Lutheran Church, St. Mark's Cathedral, Bethel College, St. Andrew's Lutheran, and Wooddale Church.
5. More than 60 diverse workshops including a special pedagogy track focusing on the organ music of Olivier Messiaen and a gala evening concert of Messiaen's instrumental music at Orchestra Hall.

The convention headquarters hotel will be The Hilton Minneapolis, is an elegant facility with high-speed wireless internet in all rooms. The convention room rate is \$138 per night. For reservations call 888-933-5353 or use the link on the convention website.

Register now at <http://www.ago2008.org/> and make sure you don't miss the most important AGO event of the biennium. See you there!

James Thomashower
Executive Director





Positions Available

Further details on these and other positions may be found at the Chapter's web-site: www.agoatlanta.org then click on "employment."

Bascomb United Methodist Church 2295 Bascomb Carmel Rd., Woodstock GA., is searching for an organist to start immediately. The church's website is www.bascombumc.org. If interested, please send resume to: pvjohns@alltel.net.

Big Canoe Chapel Organist needed for 1,100 member multi-denominational chapel located in the foothills of the north GA mountains approximately one hour north of Interstate 285. Visit our website at www.bigcanoechapel.org. Two traditional Sunday worship services (9:00 and 10:30 a.m.). The ideal candidate should possess expertise at the organ console, creativity in accompaniment of congregational hymns, proficient as a choral and solo accompanist, excellent sight-reading skills, and have an interest in contributing to worship planning. Send resume to Lamar Helms, Director of Music and Associate Chaplain, at lamarhelms@windstream.net or call Rev. Helms at 706-579-1595.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross 2005 South Columbia Place, Decatur, GA 30032. Organist/Choir Leader (choir of 15 members). Traditional (Anglican) worship, with fifth Sunday contemporary worship. For details, contact Rev. Brian Jemmott, Rector, at rector5@bellsouth.net, jemmott@bellsouth.net, or at 404-284-1211.

North Decatur Presbyterian Church 611 Medlock Road, Decatur, GA 30033, www.ndpc.org, 404-636-1429, 404-636-6605 (fax), seeks a full-time Minister of Music/Organist. The position will require 40 hours per week providing creative and dynamic leadership for all aspects of music ministry at NDPC. Send resume to uc@ndpc.org.

Norcross First United Methodist Church 2500 Beaver Ruin Road, Norcross, GA 30071 is seeking a Minister of Music. With a membership of about 2,200 and an average attendance of 750. Four Sunday morning services and one evening service The right candidate will understand that their ministry will be both spiritual and pastoral, as well as meeting music and worship requirements. Please send resume with references to Dr. Jim Lowry, Senior Pastor, at the church address above; or e-mail resume to resume@nfumc.org; or by fax to 770-448-1859.

Carrollton Presbyterian Church (USA) 14 Maple St., Carrollton, GA 30117. (770) 832-6131. Organist. Responsibilities include one weekly worship service in the Reformed tradition, Wednesday evening choir rehearsal, and special services. The successful applicant will possess excellent organ playing skills and serve as a vital member of the worship team while reporting directly to the Director of Music. The organ is a three-manual, 21 rank Reuter in a historic sanctuary. Music is traditional with an eclectic mixture of repertoire. Salary: commensurate with education, skills, and experience. Send resume to church (address above) to the attention of the Rev. Jan Tolbert. cpc_office13@hotmail.com

St Andrew United Methodist Church 3455 Canton Road, Marietta GA. 1,000 member mission-oriented church has need of two part-time positions in growing, team-oriented music department. PIANO ACCOMPANIST; ORGANIST. Practice Wednesday night 7:00-8:30 pm, Sunday services at 8:30 and 10:45. Both positions require open score reading, sight reading, ability to read and play a variety of musical styles, and punctual attendance at all practices and performances. Please e-mail your resume and cover letter to shelleyjaneross@comcast.net

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta 1911 Cliff Valley Way NE, Atlanta, Georgia, 30329 is seeking a Choir Director. Please visit: <http://www.uuca.org> for more information. Also go to [agoatlanta.org](http://www.agoatlanta.org) for complete details.



Atlanta First United Methodist Church

A.E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company and Atlanta First United Methodist Church are pleased to announce the completion and dedication of their new pipe organ.

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February 2008 Calendar of Area Events

Weekday	Date	Time	Event	Location	\$
Friday	1	7:30 pm	“Neos” featuring five musicians including organist Matt Curlee	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
Saturday	2	6:00 pm	“Movie Classics” benefit concert for restoration and renovation of the Austin organ, featuring classical pieces that have been used in movies and slides of scenes from movies, performed by Gwyn Bacon	Trinity United Methodist Church	
	2	6:00 pm	Choral Eucharist for Candlemas (Canterbury Choir, Brad Hughley, organist and choirmaster)	St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church	
Sunday	3	3:15 pm	Organ Recital featuring Christopher Harrell, followed by Evensong at 4:00 pm	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Sunday	10	3:15 pm	Organ Recital featuring Leon W. Couch, III, followed by Evensong at 4:00 pm	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	10	7:00 pm	Midtown Brass concert followed by Compline at 8:00 pm with St. Bartholomew Schola, J. Whitt, director	St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church	
Wednesday	13	11:45 am	Lenten Organ Recital: Dr. Albert Ahlstrom, Director of Music, Holy Spirit Catholic Church	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
Saturday	16	7:30 pm	Walkin’ and Swingin’: the Sacred and Secular Music of Mary Lou Williams presented by Orchestra Atlanta	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Sunday	17	3:15 pm	Organ Recital featuring Marko Petricic, followed by Evensong at 4:00 pm	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Wednesday	20	11:45 am	Lenten Organ Recital: John Richardson, Associate Director of Fine Arts and Organist, St. Mark United Methodist Church	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
Sunday	24	3:15 pm	Organ Recital featuring David Brock, followed by Evensong at 4:00 pm	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	24	4:00 pm	A Lenten Meditation with Carols featuring the St. Dunstan Choir and Mary & Martha’s Place	St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church	
	24	8:00 pm	Compline with St. Bartholomew Schola, J. Whitt, director	St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church	
Tuesday	26	7:30 pm	Atlanta Singers in concert	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Wednesday	27	11:45 am	Lenten Organ Recital: Gwyn Bacon, Associate Director of Music and Organist, Northside United Methodist Church	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
Friday	29	8:15 pm	Barber: <i>Agnus Dei</i> , Bernstein: <i>Missa Brevis</i> , Britten: <i>Rejoice In the Lamb</i> , Durufle: <i>Requiem</i> , featuring the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Chorus, Norman Mackenzie, conducting, Peter Marshall, organ	Spivey Hall Clayton State University	\$
Saturday	Mar 1	8:00 pm	St. John Passion featuring New Trinity Baroque, Predrag Gosta, director	St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church	

Please Note:

ALL Notices for the EVENTS CALENDAR should be sent to
Patty Conley : agoatlanta.events@yahoo.com

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DEADLINE for MARCH '08 issue: Feb. 15th

Advertising space available:
Per issue: \$60 half page; \$30 quarter page; \$15 business card size

Chapter Web site www.agoatlanta.org
National Web site www.AGOHQ.org
Chapter Listserve AGOAtlanta-L@listserve.uga.edu

Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, February 9, 2008 • 1:30 PM
at Grace United Methodist Church

Dinner Notes

Dinner Reservations David Barber, *Chair*
by email: d_barber@bellsouth.net

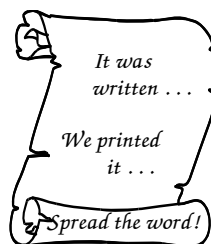
Karen Bunn, *Chair*
by phone: (h) 770.446.2084
by cell 404.502.6292

Reservations for monthly meeting dinners are a **MUST** and should be made no later than the Thursday before the next weeks meeting. **CHECKS** are to be made payable to AGO Atlanta at the dinner check-in desk. If you pay by **CASH**, please bring exact change. If you make a reservation and are unable to keep it, you are responsible for canceling the reservation in advance on the Thursday prior to the dinner or luncheon date - **OR**- you will be expected to pay for it regardless of your attendance. *Thank you in advance for honoring these requests.*

For security reasons and when at all possible, we prefer that you always pay your reservations with

a **PERSONAL CHECK**
-or-
CASH (with exact change)

To pay for a reservation that you didn't keep, mail a check to Charlene Ponder, *Treasurer*. (see Yearbook Page ML-39)

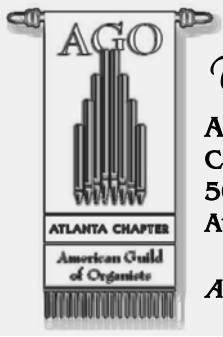


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ATTN: POSTMASTER — TIME DATED MATERIAL—PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Ann Labounsky...held the sizable audience spellbound with her performance...Members of the audience perhaps were most impressed with her improvised variations on a surprise theme, a single melodic line of *'Earth and All Stars.'*

Charleston, West Virginia

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"It's not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles . . .the credit belongs to those who actually strive, those who know great enthusiasms, great devotions, those who spend themselves in a worthy cause." Theodore Roosevelt

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