

The Organizer

Monthly Newsletter
The Atlanta Chapter
AMERICAN GUILD
of ORGANISTS
JANUARY — 2006

RICHARD PROULX SELECTED TO RECEIVE AGO DISTINGUISHED COMPOSER AWARD

NEW YORK CITY – The AMERICAN GUILD of ORGANISTS (AGO) will present its DISTINGUISHED COMPOSER AWARD to RICHARD PROULX at its Annual Meeting on Monday, July 3, 2006, in Chicago, Ill. The prestigious award is presented biennially, in conjunction with the AGO National Convention, to recognize outstanding composers of organ and choral music in the United States. Proulx has also been commissioned to write a new choral anthem with obligato instrument, which will be premiered at the AGO National Convention in Chicago.

The AGO DISTINGUISHED COMPOSER AWARD was first presented to Virgil Thomson in 1986. Other recipients of this award include Ned Rorem, Daniel Pinkham, Samuel Adler, Dominick Argento, William Albright, Conrad Susa, Emma Lou Diemer, Dan Locklair, William Bolcom, Alice Parker, Carl Schalk, and Margaret Sandresky. "The AGO is proud of its record of recognizing composers of new organ works, and new choral works," notes Frederick Swann, president of the American Guild of Organists. "We have a long tradition of commissioning composers to create new music." Since its founding in 1896, the AGO has commissioned hundreds of new works for organ and choir, more than any other single organization in the world. In 2000, the AGO was honored by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) with a certificate of merit for its new music commissions.

RICHARD PROULX is a widely published composer of more than 300 works, including congregational music in every form, sacred and secular choral works, song cycles, two operas, and instrumental and organ music. He served as consultant for The Hymnal 1982, the New Yale Hymnal, the Methodist Hymnal, Worship II and III, and has contributed to the Mennonite Hymnal and The Presbyterian Hymnal. Proulx was a member of the Standing Commission on Church Music of the Episcopal Church and was a founding member of the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians. He has conducted choral festivals and workshops across the country as well as in Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Scotland, Australia, and New Zealand. Richard Proulx was appointed composer-in-residence for 1994-1995 at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City, and was a visiting fellow at the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin. He has served on summer faculties of the Montreat Conference, the Evergreen Conference, and St. John's University School of Theology. Currently working as a free-lance composer and conductor, he has also been an editorial consultant.

A rare combination of talents as composer, conductor, music editor, and organist, together with wide experience across

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING:

A CELEBRATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN ORGAN MUSIC

A Prelude
to the
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
306 PEYTON ROAD SW-ATLANTA
404.696.3620

Host: *Trey Clegg*

PUNCH BOWL - 6 PM
DINNER - 6:30 PM
\$ 10 RESERVATIONS BY 1/5/06
PROGRAM - 8 PM

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Chapter Scholarship Auditions

The Atlanta AGO Chapter scholarship auditions will be held on Friday, April 28, 2006 at Holy Trinity Parish in downtown Decatur. Keith Nash has information and forms which he will send upon request. Please contact Keith at the church 404-377-2622, or via e-mail nash@htparish.com.

Spivey Hall's 2006 Mexican Music Festival

Spivey Hall will present the debut of organist Hector Guzman on Friday, January 20 at 8:15 p.m., which begins the Hall's 2006 Mexican Music Festival. First-prize winner of both the Chamber Soloist and Manuel M. Ponce National Organ competitions, Hector Guzman also won prizes at the University of North Texas and Southern Methodist University before garnering world acclaim as the first-ever Latin American finalist in the Grand Prix de Chartres. Spivey Hall's organist-in-residence, Richard Morris will deliver a pre-concert talk at 7:15 p.m. before Mr. Guzman's recital.

PROGRAM: VIVALDI/BACH *Concerto in A minor*
BACH *Prelude and Fugue in B Minor*
WIDOR *Theme and Variations* (from Symphony No.5)
JIMENEZ *Sonata de Navidad*
ESTRADA *rocesion y Saeta*
NOBLE *Allegro Festivo*

NEWSFLASH!!!!

Announcing The 2006 University of Alabama Church Music Conference

Featuring Marilyn Keiser and Faythe Freese

Friday - January 27 Organ Recital by Dr. Freese
Saturday - January 28 Workshops, Masterclasses,
Keynote Address & Festival Choral Concert

Workshop Topics include:

Resources for the Small Parish
Organ, Conducting & Vocal Masterclasses
New Worship Styles
Handbell & Chimes Music/Techniques
Arranging Music, Aesthetics of Worship
Cambiata Guidelines
New Published Organ & Choral Repertoire

More Details & Registration online:
www.music.ua.edu/organ/events/

Sue Goddard, F.A.G.O. is Honored

A new music scholarship has just been established at Agnes Scott College in the name of *Sue Walker Goddard*. As we all know, Sue is principal organist at Grace United Methodist Church and is currently serving on the Atlanta Chapter's Executive Board.

We hope to have further details on this honor in the February issue of *The Organizer*, however, isn't this wonderful news and so welcomed at these recent holidays and as we begin 2006?



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helped make this our best year yet!*

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A Message from The DEAN

I want to remind you that Charles Redmon, the Editor of this publication, has invited you, our Readers/Members, to contribute your knowledge, creative ideas, problem-solving ingenuity, humor, and wisdom from experience - in the form of articles. I sincerely hope to see an inspired response to this opportunity beginning early in 2006! As a Member of this AGO Chapter since the Summer of 1984, I know first-hand that many of you have much to share in this regard. Consider 'putting pen to paper' to expand the perspective of our beloved *Organizer*!

Thanks as hearty as the marvelous December 27th PARTY Menu, is due our gracious Host (from more than 40 grateful guests), Warren Williams, our first-ever but very clever CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE: Dan Pruitt, Pamela Ingram, Tim Eastling - Ketih Vansant AND to the generous donors of several fabulous Party Door Prizes: Douglas Johnson and Bill Weaver! This is written too early to tell you who wins the prizes, so we'll let you know during our Dinner/Meeting at St. Paul's on JANUARY 10TH!

As 2005 draws to a close, I wonder how many of you make New Year's Resolutions? I've tried it before, but haven't had much success. Instead, I find this is a good time to STOP and carefully recall the miracles, large and small, which have made this day possible. Let us CELEBRATE what has been done which is beneficial, because such gratitude fuels the imagination for future possibility! As Members of the American Guild of Organists, what can we accomplish together that we cannot do as well or as effectively by ourselves? EACH ONE of us, in finding excellent answers to this Question, has reasons to REACH ONE whom we know could benefit from being connected with and an active participant in AGO! Sooo... WHO might you invite to our next two monthly Chapter events, on Tuesday, January 10th and on Friday, February 17th? Have you contacted our Sub-Dean, Michael Morgan, about offering to play for our March 14th Members Recital?

Here's one of my answers to the question I posed above. Your Chapter Executive Board proposes that we pool our resources to help Members of the New Orleans AGO Chapter to rebuild their music libraries. I've recently been in touch with AGO Dean Steven Blackmon, who serves as Director of Music/Organist of St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans. The New Orleans Chapter held their first meeting since the hurricane on December 12th, so Dean Blackmon is currently asking AGO Members there, what their greatest needs are regarding organ and choral music. I will use our Chapter Listserv to advise you further as soon as I receive more information from Mr. Blackmon!

WILL WILEY ROGERS (named for the famous humorist who was his distant cousin, and for aviator Wiley Post), died from an asthma attack on November 21st at the age of 64. Will was enthusiastically present at nearly every AGO Chapter event, including our 6-day

summer Pipe Organ Encounters for teenagers! Serving most recently as our official Chapter Photographer, Will took the wonderful photo on page 13 of our current Yearbook. Those AGO Members who attended Will's Memorial Service in Jonesboro on Friday, December 2nd, were able to meet Will and Becky's daughter, Jennifer Martin of Dallas, Oregon, who spoke eloquently about her father! An article published the same day in the AJC Obituaries stated: "Will Rogers embraced his Cherokee heritage after being forced to deny it for years". Two years ago, my son Joseph and I attended a showing at Arts Clayton Gallery, of Will's watercolor series on the Cherokee Tribe's "Trail of Tears" from beloved homelands here in Georgia to 'reservation' life in Oklahoma. Sergeant Major Will Rogers spent 30 years in the U.S. Army as a military chaplain's assistant, retiring in 1994 to Riverdale, Georgia, with his wife Becky Dodrill Rogers. Will Rogers loved music, especially the organ, and he always wanted to learn more - playing in AGO Masterclasses (most recently, for Wilma Jensen in November 2004), and this year he was taking organ lessons from Sarah Hawbecker! We will all miss our friend and colleague.

Our Registrar, Cynthia Forbes, notifies me that this month we welcome NEW Member Thomas Eisnor and RENEWing Member Joseph Cirou. Your Nominating Committee is presently going about their important work! - preparing a slate of Officers in order to notify you prior to March 1st, via our February newsletter. THANKS to Phillip Parkey (Chair), Gregory Colson, Don Larson, Betty Williford, and Timothy Eastling, for serving in this capacity! 'ELECTIONS' on page 8 of our yearbook under "Atlanta Chapter Operating Procedures" states: "*Write-in nominations may be made by petition signed by five Chapter members in good standing and delivered to the Secretary by April 1st.*"

Keith Nash, Chair for our Annual Chapter Scholarship Auditions, has set the 2005 DATE for Friday, APRIL 28th! Mark your calendar now, and make it a priority for come to Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Decatur and LISTEN to the auditionees - it was a thrilling experience for us who attended in 2004!

Friends and colleagues, ARE YOUR NEEDS BEING MET by this Chapter? Is the future of our beloved pipe organ and its literature being well served? "The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ IN ITS HISTORIC 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". How may we ACT to better accomplish this purpose? We who work in the church or synagogue make musical selections using the yearly cycle and its Readings as a hermeneutic/lens. I urge you to view this Mission Statement through your individual hermeneutic; then, please be willing to communicate and ACT upon what you see - using ALL that you are! Meanwhile, in words borrowed from a Christmas card I received - May your NEW YEAR dawn "*as peaceful and bright as newly fallen snow!*"

Joanne Brown, *Dean*

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."

Mary Our Queen Catholic Church 6269 The Corners Parkway, Norcross, GA is seeking a part-time Music Director/Organist. Responsibilities include: 2 Masses each weekend and other Masses as required throughout the Liturgical Year. Solid Catholic liturgical practices a must. Visit our website: www.maryourqueen.com Contact Fr. David Dye 770-416-0002 for interview.

First Presbyterian Church — 206 Willowbend Road, Peachtree City, GA is seeking an organist for traditional worship. Interested musicians may contact Tom Perkins, 770-487-7757 or tperkins@firstpres.com.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church (USA) 1272 Ledford Rd., Blairsville, GA 30512 706-745-0607 Organist/choirmaster for 130 member church in the mountains of North Georgia. Send resume or contact The Rev. Susan Johnson (fathersue@alltel.net).

COUNTDOWN TO CHICAGO!

We hope you can join us in magnificent Chicago! In addition to world-class ensembles, performers, dining and shopping, you will have the chance to experience one of the most wonderful fireworks displays anywhere! It is also a chance to celebrate the centenary of the Chicago Chapter of the AGO. We invite you to visit our Web site; you can access it from the AGO National Headquarters home page, www.agohq.org. Visit it early and often for exciting updates and venue information! See you in the Windy City!

JANUARY'S MENU

Rotisserie Chicken, Marinated Pork Loin
Vegetable Medley, Tossed Salad,
Dessert, Tea and Coffee

Music at The Cathedral of St. Philip

Sunday Afternoon Recital Series - All recitals begin in the Cathedral at 3:30 p.m. as a prelude to the 4 p.m. Evensong, which is sung by the Cathedral Schola or Choir. Evensong on Third Thursdays at 5:45 p.m. is sung by the Choir of Girls, Boys and Adults.

JANUARY Organ Recitals at 4 o'clock

- 8 Stuart Forster (Cambridge, MA)
- 15 Kevin Komisaruk (U. of Toronto)
- 22 Gail Archer (Barnard College, NYC)
- 29 Mitchell R. Weisiger (Decatur, GA)

- Liturgical Highlights -

Thursday — 5 January
**CHORAL EUCHARIST
FOR THE EVE OF
THE EPIPHANY**
The Cathedral Choir

Thursday — 2 February
**CHORAL EUCHARIST
FOR THE FEAST OF**

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 306 PEYTON ROAD SW —ATLANTA 404.696.3620

FROM MID-TOWN

- TAKE I-75/85 SOUTH TO I-20 WEST
- GO TO EXIT 52A (HOLMES DRIVE SOUTH)
- LEADS ON TO HOLMES DRIVE - AND THIS SAME ROAD WILL BECOME PEYTON ROAD IN LESS THAN 1 MILE.
- GO ANOTHER MILE, AND THE CHURCH WILL BE ON THE LEFT ACROSS THE STREET FROM PEYTON FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

AREA EVENTS CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2006

Sunday	1	11:15 AM	Congregational Lessons & Carols	Cathedral of St. Philip
Thursday	5	7 PM	Choral Eucharist for <i>The Eve of Epiphany</i>	Cathedral of St. Philip
Th/Fr/Sat	5-7	8 PM	ASO Chamber Chorus (<i>Spano</i>) Bach <i>MAGNIFICAT</i>	Symphony Hall \$19-\$58
Sunday	8	3:30 PM	Stuart Forster, <i>organ</i>	Cathedral of St. Philip
Tuesday	10	8 PM	AGO Atlanta Chapter <i>Celebration of African American Organ Music</i>	St. Paul's Episcopal
Saturday	14	8 PM	Helikon Opera (Moscow) <i>Die Fledermaus</i>	First Ctr. @ GA. Tech. \$
Sunday	15	3:30 PM	Kevin Komisaruk, <i>organ</i>	Cathedral of St. Philip
Friday	20	7:30 PM	Chorister's Guild Hymn Festival with <i>Paul Oakley</i>	Peachtree Road UMC
		8:15 PM	Hector Guzman, <i>organ</i> <i>2006 Mexican Music Festival</i>	Spivey Hall — CSU Morrow
Sunday	22	2 PM	Bruce Neswick, <i>organ</i>	St. Bridig RC, Alpharetta \$10
		3:30 PM	Gail Archer, <i>organ</i>	Cathedral of St. Philip \$
		4 PM	Timothy & Tamara Albrecht <i>Duo Organists</i>	Schwartz Center — Emory
		7 PM	Todd Wilson, <i>organ</i> <i>Létourneau Organ Anniversary Concert</i>	Redeemer Lutheran Church
Sunday	29	3 PM	Atlanta Baroque Orchestra <i>All French Baroque</i>	Peachtree Road UMC \$
		3:30 PM	Mitchell R. Weisinger, <i>organ</i>	Cathedral of St. Philip
Tuesday	31	8 PM	Organ Concertos & Premieres	Schwartz Center — Emory



SAINT BRIGID CATHOLIC CHURCH

presents

BRUCE NESWICK

**Performing on the new 37 rank
Casavant Frères, Opus 3832**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2006, 2 PM

Bruce Neswick will play music by Bach, Howells and Durufle and will end his program with an improvisation. Mr. Neswick has been the winner of three international improvisation competitions and is frequently called on to teach and perform in this idiom.

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Tickets: \$10, available at the door

For more information, call 678-393-0060 or
email: rbarnwell@saintbrigid.org

HARRELD-JAMES ORGAN RECITAL SERIES *The Sisters Chapel* Spelman College

On *Sunday, January 22, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.*, Dr. Joyce Johnson, *AAGO*, will perform the second concert in a series of organ recitals celebrating the re-opening of the newly renovated Sisters Chapel, and the re-installation of the beautiful 54-rank Holtkamp organ. Professor of Music and College Organist at Spelman, Dr. Johnson is an active recitalist and workshop presenter. In the summer of 2005, she was a recitalist, workshop presenter, hymn festival organist, and adjudicator for the Region VIII *AGO* Convention in Montana.

The public is cordially invited, and there is no admission charge. Ample parking is available.

ORGAN PREMIERES AT EMORY



THREE WORKS FOR ORGAN AND ORCHESTRA

Walter Piston
Giles Swayne

Prelude and Allegro
Chinese Whispers

*U.S. Premiere

Tilo Medek

Italian Concerto

*U.S. Premiere

Richard Prior, Emory University's Director of Orchestral Studies conducts an orchestra of Atlanta's top professional musicians as Emory graduate organ students **Melissa Plamann** and **Randall Harlow** take the helm of the new Jaeckel Op. 45 Organ. Come join us for a spectacular performance of these rarely heard masterpieces.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, AT 8 PM

SCHWARTZ CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, EMORY
UNIVERSITY

ADMISSION IS FREE

In Memoriam Richard Peek

Memorial Service: December 1, 2005

A.G.O. Region IV Councilor (*mid 1980's*)
40 years as Director of Music,
Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC



The Organizer & Other Important Information

Charles Redmon, *Editor* 404. 931.8668
chazredmon@aol.com

Edward Caldwell, *Events Calendar* 770.487.6791
caldwele@bellsouth.net

DEADLINE for JANUARY '06 issue: Jan. 15, 2006

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 — January 14, 2006 — 9:30 AM
Central Presbyterian Church

CHAPTER'S YEAR AT A GLANCE

The 2005-2006 season's Calendar of Events

- January 10** Celebration of African-American Organ Music
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Trey Clegg, host
- February 17** **Christopher Pardini, Organist**
North Decatur Presbyterian Church
Jamie Shiell, host
- March 14** **Members' Recital — "Organ Plus One"**
First Presbyterian Church, Marietta
- April** Commissioned work for Easter
[No Monthly Meeting] *David Kocsis, composer*
- May 9** **Annual Guild Service**
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Atlanta
John Coble, host

*Mark your calendars, and plan to attend
as often as you are able!*

Dinner Notes

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

Karen Bunn, Chair
by phone: 770.446.2084

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 24 hours in advance of the dinner date - OR- you will be expected to pay for it regardless of your attendance. *Thank you in advance for honoring these requests.*

Our wonderfully dedicated volunteers who sign you in and collect fees for dinners and lunches have made a URGENT REQUEST.

For security reasons and when at all possible,
please always pay your reservations with

a *PERSONAL CHECK*

-or-

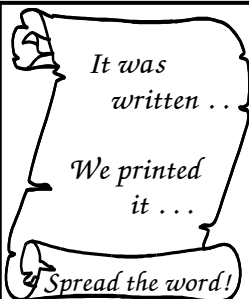
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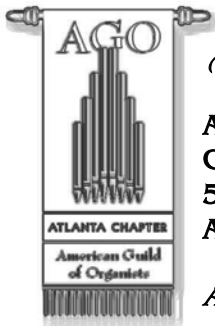
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Happy New Year

2006

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First Presbyterian Church of Savannah

The A. E. Schluter Pipe Organ Company and First Presbyterian Church of Savannah, Georgia, are proud to announce the installation and dedication of their new 3-manual, 48-rank pipe organ. The dedication concert on October 9 featured recitalist Tom Alderman. The specification, stunning color photos of the installed organ, plus production photos are available for viewing on our website.



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