



The Organizer

Monthly Newsletter
The Atlanta Chapter
AMERICAN GUILD
of ORGANISTS
NOVEMBER 2007

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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."

NOVEMBER'S ARTIST

Nigel Potts, a native of New Zealand, is Organist and Choirmaster at Christ and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New York City; Artist-in-Residence at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bay Shore, New York; and



is a National Examiner for the Royal School of Church Music. He holds degrees from Yale, the Conservatorium of Music in Wellington (New Zealand), and Trinity College of Music in London. He also studied at the Royal Academy of Music. An exponent of English romantic music and transcriptions, he toured widely celebrating the centenary of Percy Whitlock in 2003, and this year is celebrating the 150th birthday of Sir Edward Elgar. For a complete bio and more information on Mr. Potts, please go to www.nigelpotts.com



Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934), a self-taught composer, organist, violinist, and teacher, was regarded internationally as the leading British composer during the high point of his career (1900-1920). His lifelong ambition was to be a recognized composer rather than a performer, and he avidly studied Continental musical styles. His national prominence as a composer was achieved in his *Enigma Variations*, performed in London in 1899, and the following year with his oratorio, *Gerontius*. Following the death of his wife in 1920, Elgar lost his inspiration and composed very little. His works span the gamut from confident, ebullient ceremonial music (the *Pomp and Circumstance* marches, for example) to compositions with a deeper and poetic vein, demonstrating the often painful insecurities of his period, class, and religion.

(Reprinted by kind permission of Boosey and Hawkes)

AN EVENING WITH ELGAR

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

NIGEL POTTS
Concert Organist

Cathedral of St. Philip
2744 Peachtree Road NW ♦ Atlanta
404.267.4263

Host:
Bruce Neswick



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

Reservations \$12 by 11/8/07

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NEED HELP WITH DINNER RESERVATIONS?

Those of us on the dinner reservation committee want to be able to facilitate the attendance of our members who come to the dinner and programs. If you have questions, or need additional help with your dinner reservations, please contact Karen Bunn or David Barber. If you need help at the last minute, please call Karen Bunn either at Home-770-446-2084 or Cell-404-502-6292.

NOVEMBER MENU

Chicken Breast with mushroom sauce,
Long grain and wild rice, Mini whole green
beans with red peppers and pearl onions.

Spinach quiche for vegetarians

Brownies with and without nuts for dessert
Iced Tea and Coffee



Music at St. Dunstan's

A Series of Sacred Music Events
for the 2007-2008 Season

Celebrating Ten Years of the
DELAWARE-PARKEY ORGAN, OPUS 2 (1997)

BREAD, WINE, AND BLUES (AND BAPTISMS!)

**Jazz Eucharist for All Saints Sunday
Sunday, 4 November 2007 - 10:45 AM**

Saint Dunstan goes to New Orleans for a truly unique celebration of the Feast of All Saints! Music will be led by the Fotet of J.R. & Company, featuring pianist Tyrone Jackson, with William Hatcher on bass, Bob Lewis on horns, and (*Saint Dunstan's own!*) drummer James "J.R." Millikan. It's All Hallows with a swing and a twist, I guar-an-tee!

✠

All events are free and open to the public.
An offering will be collected.
(Suggested donation: \$5)
Childcare Provided.

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4393 Garmon Road NW
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Atlanta, GA 30305-2920

Call 404.365.1050 for more information

Sunday, 4 November

3:15 PM / ORGAN RECITAL

David Lamb

(First United Methodist Church, Columbus, IN)

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Wood and Leighton

Sunday, 11 November

3:15 PM / ORGAN RECITAL

Eric Dombrowski

(First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC)

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Amner

Tuesday, 13 November

8 PM / ORGAN CONCERT

Nigel Potts (from New York City)

in an all-Elgar program to celebrate the
150th anniversary of the composer's birth

in conjunction with the Atlanta Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists

Thursday, 15 November

5:45 PM / EVENSONG

Choir of Girls, Boys and Adults

music by Harris

Sunday, 18 November

3:15 PM / ORGAN RECITAL

Richard Pilliner (London, England)

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Harris

Sunday, 25 November

3:15 PM / ORGAN RECITAL

David Schelat

(First and Central Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, DE)

4 PM / EVENSONG

Cathedral Schola

music by Bairstow and Statham

Sunday, 2 December

4 PM / ADVENT PROCESSION

Cathedral Choir

music by Guerrero, Bullock, McKie, Guest, Distler,
Manz, Beaudrot, Neswick and Phillips

A Message from The DEAN

What an evening we had at All Saints in October! Jonas Nordwall, with the Elmore "Rhumba," practically had this Scots Presbyterian dancing in the aisle! It was a different program in so many ways, but played with the same care and precision and delight that should be part of every recital or service we present. When we consider the source of our gifts, how can we do less?

A special treat for me was having as my guest that evening Clay Heidbreder, a teenager from my congregation who, for the past year or so, has had a fascination with the organ in our church, and regularly comes up when I play the closing voluntary just to watch and listen, and without fail, asks to have a few minutes at the organ while the Altar Guild clears away the remnants from our worship and a few stragglers are still conversing in the pews. No matter what combination of flutes and strings I set for him, he usually migrates quickly to full organ, which becomes auditory "fuel" for his youthful fire!

Clay has been studying piano for a couple of years, and his changing voice, coupled with his ability to read music, gives the children's choir some leeway in part singing. He is energetic, enthusiastic, and creative, and the first time he sat down at the console he played his own improvisation on the opening of Bach's D-minor Toccata *a la* "Phantom of the Opera." I then played the toccata "as Bach wrote it," and we talked about the differences. One had the right notes in the right order, with the dramatic fermatas and pauses, as Virgil Fox might have played it. The other had the energy and excitement I heard reflected in Nordwall's playing last month. I hope Clay will always keep that in his music.

Clay's first in-depth introduction to the organ was attending the POE at Stetson University last summer, and he came back inspired to begin organ lessons with one of our members who lives in his Atlanta neighborhood. As part of the POE experience, his first year's membership in AGO was included, and as soon as I learned this from the National Office, I invited Clay and his mother to join us at All Saints for the evening. I especially appreciate the warm welcome you gave him, and the program could not have been more perfect. The recital was a bit longer than some of our programs, and even though I had told his mother that since it was a school night, they should leave whenever she felt it necessary, Clay stayed until the final note, and then stood in the aisle and talked with me with animation I haven't experienced in a long time. I'm sure he'll be back!

There was a time, early in the last century, when recital programs such as this were the standard — orchestral and operatic transcriptions, adaptations of popular songs, and virtuoso playing beyond what might be printed on the page. Thanks to all those at All Saints who made it possible for each of us — and my friend Clay — to witness this dimension of organ performance.

As I write today, I am in Texas for a music and worship conference sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians. We will no doubt be talking a lot about new directions in congregational song, for the keynote speaker is Carl Daw, Jr., the Executive Director of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and the organist is David Eicher, past president of the Hymn Society and the recently appointed editor of a new Presbyterian Hymnal that will be coming out in a few years. Hal Hopson and I will be talking a lot about singing the Psalms in worship and a new resource of his (to be published by MorningStar), which combines sung responses (all Hal's) and canted metrical texts (mostly mine!). The worship and the singing will give us a chance to hear and sing and experience some of the best in new resources, along with some old standards.

The more worship services I help to lead, the more I am convinced that the Holy Spirit continues to speak and move through new songs, keeping our worship alive and fresh. A friend several years ago shared with me a church bulletin with this unfortunate misprint for one of the hymn titles: "Spirit of God, *Deceased* upon My Heart!" Now that sums up for me much of the problems I think we church musicians are encountering in our worship. We need to be as bathed in this Spirit as we are washed in the waters of baptism, and ever listening to where it may lead us.

"Finlandia" or a Widor symphony, a Palestrina motet or "Down by the River to Pray," the Pachelbel chaconne or maybe even Elmore's "Rhumba" — who knows where the Spirit may lead us next?!

Michael Morgan, *Dean*

Elgar Sesquicentennial at St. Philips

November 13 at 8 o'clock

Nigel Potts, concert organist

Elgar – the Organist

Sonata Op.28

*Allegro maestoso, Allegretto,
Andante espressivo, Presto*

Elgar – the Orchestrator

Froissart Overture, Op.19 *transcribed by Nigel Potts*

Chanson de Matin & Chanson de Nuit, Op.15

transcribed by Herbert Brewer

Imperial March, Op.32 *transcribed by George Martin*

An Amendment for Operating Guidelines

In order to insure the best lines of communication within the Chapter, and to project the best image outside of the Chapter, the Board, with the approval of both the Regional Councillor and the National Office, is proposing that the Operating Guidelines be amended to include the Webmaster as an active member of the Board. By doing this, we will insure that our two communications positions (Newsletter Editor and Webmaster) will be an active part of the work of the Board for the good of the Chapter. The Newsletter Editor regularly attends the Board meetings. The Webmaster has been attending Board meetings, at the request of the Board, as an *ex officio* member, and this action will make the position official.

At the November meeting, those present will be asked to vote to approve this motion. If you have any questions, or wish to vote but are unable to attend the next meeting, you are invited to contact Michael Morgan, Dean (by phone at 770-964-0085, or simply mail in a postcard with your vote to: 7310 Hobgood Road, Fairburn, GA 30213).

A Holiday Treat . . .

As the Holiday Season approaches, we invite you to include our Advent Concert, scheduled for Sunday, December 9th, 2007 at 3:00 PM. on your calendar. This special musical service will be built around the theme "Tell Me The Story of Jesus." You will find inspiration and Spiritual Refreshment as you enjoy the Traditional Music of Christmas, not only, from America, but also Victorian English Christmas Carols. The Sounds of Advent will be performed by our singers, and, our wonderful Rodgers-Wicks Pipe Organ, complimented by the Deagan Tubular Chimes.

Do not miss this Holiday Treat. . . we look forward to seeing you there !!!

Underwood United Methodist Church

1671 Howell Mill Road NW
Atlanta GA 30318
404.351.3631

FINAL REPORT

**for 2007 REGION IV CONVENTION of the
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
New South / New Organs / New Music
17-21 June 2007**



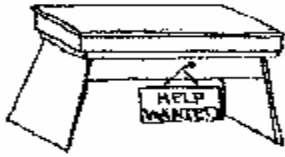
We were delighted to have served as the co-chairs for this convention and are proud to report of its general, overall success. Mounting such a gathering of people is never without its challenges, and we certainly had our fair share, but, in the end, we can all be happy with the "final product."

We were blessed to have been allied with a wondrously talented Steering Committee, which met on a monthly basis over the course of two years. The dedication and creativity of the committee members themselves is a testament to the rich tradition of music in the city of Atlanta and was the ultimate source of the convention's triumph. From the diversity of the programming to the smoothness of the logistical planning, "New South/New Organs/New Music" reflected the talent and work ethic of its steering committee.

All in all, we are very pleased with the quality of the entire convention. Notable among the highlights were (as seconded by many of the comments on the 34 returned convention surveys): the "national convention" quality and diversity of the recitalists (one man's "I never want to hear this again" was another's "that was the best thing at the convention"); the hospitality (including lunches at venues), which was superbly managed by our two Hospitality Co-Chairs; the preaching (what other convention can boast of Barbara Brown-Taylor, Don Saliers and William Porter in one preaching roster?!) and music at the worship services; and the excellence of our fund-raising efforts, which resulted in many thousands of dollars of extra income.

We are delighted to have made a profit on the convention (and to be able to send to national a portion of our revenue). In addition to the required donation sent to the national office, we are thrilled to report the establishment of an endowment at the chapter level from the remaining surplus convention income. This fund will be employed to assist with future special chapter endeavors, such as chapter festival events, as well as (dare we say it?!) start-up funds for future conventions,

With every best wish,
Respectfully submitted,
John Brandt and Bruce Neswick,
co-chairs



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."

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church Alpharetta, GA is seeking a Director of Music. Please email resume to joela@alpharettapres.com (subject line APC-DOM) or fax to 770-751-3862.

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.

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.

Pilgrimage Presbyterian Church 4225 Wynne Russell Drive, Lilburn, GA 30047 seeks an organist/accompanist for PPC's music program. Average six hours per week. Interested candidates should contact Greg McMinn at 770.717.9834.

St. George Catholic Church, Newnan, GA is looking for Organist and Choir Director. Rodgers 3 manual w/MIDI Please send email ONLY to Anthony.rimore@gmail.com or contact Anthony Rimore at 678.557.9434. Please *do not* contact the church - this will result in disqualification of candidate.

Simpsonwood UMC 4500 Jones Bridge Circle, Norcross, GA 30092 (the Peachtree Corners area of Norcross) is seeking an Organist/ Accompanist for one weekly worship service. Interested candidates may send a resume to Organist Search, Simpsonwood UMC at church address above, or via email to rhamrick@simpsonwoodumc.org.

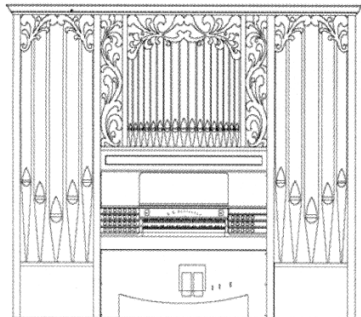
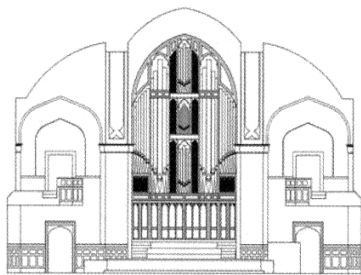
Southminster Presbyterian Church 1507 Hurt Road, Marietta, GA 30008. Organist/Choir Leader (choir needs "re-development"). For further details, contact Lottie Kershaw at kershawhram@yahoo.com, or 770-459-0088.

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church a new Episcopal church to be located in the New Vinings/Smyrna area, is looking for a part-time organist/choir director to help begin a music program. Worship services will begin December 2, and the application deadline is October 1. Please send your resume and/or contact: Ms. Patty Jones, 400 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 420, Atlanta, GA 30339, 678-279-4300; Patty@MySaintB.org.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church 2833 Flat Shoals Rd., Decatur, GA 30034; 404-241-7711 seeks an Organist/Director of Music for Sunday [10:00am] worship service, major feast days and special occasions. interested candidates need to apply to: The Rev. Harold Lockett, D. Min., or Fax Resume and Cover letter to: 404-241-5259 or attach to email: sttimoth@bellsouth.net



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November 2007 Calendar of Area Events

Weekday	Date	Time	Event	Location	\$
Thursday	1	8:00 pm	ASO & Chorus: Brahm's <i>Requiem</i>	Symphony Hall	\$
Saturday	3	3:00 pm	Ken Cowen, organ (from Curtis & Yale Institutes) (Pre-concert talk at 2 pm)	Spivey Hall	\$
	3	8:00 pm	ASO & Chorus: Brahm's <i>Requiem</i>	Symphony Hall	\$
	3	8:00 pm	New Trinity Baroque <i>The Art of the Italian Madrigal</i> Pre-Concert Talk @ 7pm: Concert @ 8pm	St. Bartholomew's Episcopal	\$
Sunday	4	3:15 pm	Organ recital featuring David Lamb, followed by Evensong with the Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	4	4:00 pm	Zuzana Ferjenciková, organ, Bratislava Music Academy	Emory's Schwartz Center	
	4	4:30 pm	Solemn Evensong for the Feast of All Saints William Krape, Organ	Peachtree Road UMC	
	4	8:00 pm	New Trinity Baroque <i>The Art of the Italian Madrigal</i> Pre-Concert Talk @ 7pm: Concert @ 8pm	Emory's Oxford College Oxford, GA	\$
Friday	9	8:00 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" directed by Diane Haase Clausen and musical direction by Jane Burke	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
Saturday	10	8:00 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes"	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
Sunday	11	2:15 pm	Redeemer Piano Ensemble, Mary Brown Hinely, director, featuring eight pianists at four grand pianos	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
	11	3:00 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes"	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
	11	3:00 pm	Franz Joseph Haydn's " <i>The Creation</i> " presented by The Voices of Grace	Grace United Methodist	
	11	3:15 pm	Organ recital featuring John Alexander, followed by Evensong with the Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	11	6:00 pm	Organ concert featuring John Richardson	Chamblee First United Methodist	
Tuesday	13	8:00 pm	AGO meeting and organ recital featuring Nigel Potts, a celebration of the Elgar Centenary	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Wednesday	14	7:30 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes"	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
Thursday	15	5:45 pm	Evensong featuring the Choir of Girls, Boys and Adults	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Friday	16	8:00 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes"	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
Saturday	17	8:00 pm	Cole Porter's "Anything Goes"	Saint Mark United Methodist Gym	\$
Sunday	18	3:15 pm	Organ recital featuring Richard Pilliner, followed by Evensong with the Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	18	7:00 pm	Harvest Home: A Midtown Thanksgiving featuring the Redeemer Choir, Canticum Novum, Carillon Ringers, Rich Jones, Christine Drescher-Jones and other guest soloists and instrumentalists	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
	18	7:30 pm	Organ recital featuring William E. Krape	Sacred Heart Church	
Sunday	25	3:15 pm	Organ recital featuring David Schelat, followed by Evensong with the Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
December Sunday	2	4:00 pm	<i>An Advent Procession</i> with Bruce Neswick and the Cathedral Choir	The Cathedral of St. Philip	

AGO Atlanta 2007-2008 Season at a Glance

November 13	Nigel Potts <i>Elgar Sesquicentennial Program</i> Cathedral of St. Philip
December	2007 Chapter Holiday Party Date and location to be announced
January 8	Thomas Murray Morningside Presbyterian
February 12	Ann Labounsky <i>"Life and Music of Jean Langlais"</i> Peachtree Christian Church
April 12	Young Organist Concert St. Mark's United Methodist
May 13	Guild Service with Sue Goddard & The Baker Festival Singers Grace United Methodist Church

The Organizer & Other News You Need

Charles Redmon, <i>Editor</i>	404.931.8668 chazredmon@aol.com
Patty Conley, <i>Events Calendar</i>	770.482.4845 agoatlanta.events@yahoo.com

DEADLINE for NOVEMBER '07 issue: Oct. 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, November 3, 2007 • 12:30 p.m.
at Hapeville Presbyterian Church

About the 2007-2008 Yearbook

2007-08 AGO Atlanta Yearbooks will again be available at the November 13th meeting. We appreciate those of you who renewed your membership by the June 30th deadline - and those who picked up their books in September & October. If you need to have your copy mailed, please contact Michael Morris, Registrar.

Every effort has been made to insure accuracy and completeness of the information contained within the 2007-2008 Yearbook. All information was taken directly from your new or renewal application. If there are errors, additions or changes, please notify the Registrar at your earliest convenience. Updates will be presented in the monthly issue of *The Organizer*.

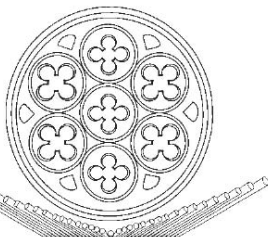
Dinner Notes

Dinner Reservations	David Barber, <i>Chair</i> by email: d_barber@bellsouth.net
	Karen Bunn, <i>Chair</i> by phone: (h) 770.446.2084 (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)

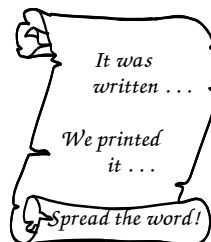


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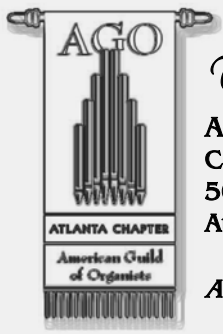


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Join your fellow Chapter members for the

150th Elgar Celebration

November 13th at the Cathedral of St. Philip

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Morningside Presbyterian Church
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Donald Sutherland, Coordinator of Organ Faculty
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