A November Note from the Dean.....

In this season of Thanksgiving, we must never forget to thank God for the gift of music! Whether we are making music or simply listening for the enjoyment of it, our lives are enriched by the beauty of melody, harmony, and creativity of the composers. As our Executive Board and its Members at Large met to plan the programs for our Chapter's 2019-2020 year, we carefully considered the schedules and interests of our membership. As you look at your Grand Strand AGO Chapter Membership Booklet, you will see beginning on page 7 the wonderful variety of events that we have programmed for you. Opening Convocation, Christmas music, educational videos, social gatherings, workshops in hymn playing and choral music, a special Bach week-end, an organ crawl, and completing our year with a members recital. We urge you to take advantage of these great events. They are meant to be fun, informative, educational and inspirational. We have been blessed with great leadership in the past and have had the privilege of hosting a wonderful convention. Now we are anxious to continue that example as we meet together and grow our chapter. You are part of an exciting group of folks who love organs and sacred music. So much to be thankful for.
Myrtle Beach, SC. The Grand Strand Chapter met on October 12 at historic Kingston Presbyterian Church in Conway, SC, for a workshop "Christmas 101" at which music was presented in preparation for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany planning. Residing Organist, Bradley Hardee hosted the event. Composers such as Michael Praetorius, Johannes Brahms, Johann Pachelbel, Jean-Philippe Rameau, Paul Manz, Wilbur Held, Alec Wyton, Franklin Ashdown, Patrick Liebergen, James Chepponis, Rosemary Corrigan Campbell and two chapter members, George Giblin and Roberta Rowland-Raybold were represented in the shared literature. The early pre-Advent workshop was held in October, giving members new ideas and time to learn literature before the beginning of Advent. While many selections were written for organ, there were also works for piano and flute, piano and organ, and choirs. The members and friends attending and presenting were Bradley Hardee, Eugene Borkes, Brad Smith, Mary Allice Phillips, Jessica Eaton, Carlton Niven, George Giblin, Roberta Rowland-Raybold, Karen Meeker, Darleen Smith, Lee Giblin and Nancy Owens. Following the morning event lunch was held at Conway’s "Pickled Cucumber."

Roberta Rowland-Raybold
Dean, Grand Strand Chapter

Upcoming Chapter Event
Videos and Pizza
Sunday November 10 4:00 pm
Risen Christ Lutheran Church
10595 Highway 17
Myrtle Beach
(in church Parish Hall - enter by Office Door)

Don't you wish you were as smart as the wise old owl?
How often have you wished that improvisation came naturally?
Here's a great opportunity to enhance your service playing!
Don't miss this workshop by one of America's foremost experts on organ improvisation!

AGO National's Video Presentations

"Improvisation in Service Playing"  
Presenter - Tom Trenney
&
"Pulling Out All the Stops" - Part III

Pizza Party

Following the informative and entertaining videos we will enjoy pizza, drinks and dessert.

Merry Christmas!

Attention Members and Guests
Put this date on your calendar now!!!

Monday, December 9 at 6:00 pm

Christmas Dinner Party
Buffet dinner party at:
Angelos Steak & Pasta
Myrtle Beach

Group rate per person: $20.00
(includes buffet, dessert, tax & gratuity)
cocktails, beer & wine - extra
Payable by check or cash at event
(checks made payable to Grand Strand Chapter of the AGO)

We will need to get a head count prior to this event.
Look for additional information coming to you via email.

Guests are welcome!

We look forward to seeing you at this special event!

Grand Strand Chapter Chaplain
Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant II

Our Grand Strand AGO Chapter Chaplain, the Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II, has been Rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church since 2002. When he was asked to serve as Chaplain of our AGO chapter, he gladly accepted. He strongly believes it is important to be supportive of the church musicians within our chapter and it is his desire to serve us in any way that he can. Even though he has a parish to lead, Fr. Merchant hopes to be available to the Chapter membership whenever he is needed. If you would like to speak with Fr. Merchant, he can be reached at St. Stephen's church office: 843-249-1169.

Chapter Member News!

Please note this phone number change in the member directory.

George Giblin
Old home phone #: (843) 299-1138
Hello Friends,

I am pleased to announce the following information about the December Messiah performances with the Long Bay Symphony, under the direction of Charles Evans. This info has just been released, so you're among the first to know!

You are receiving this message because you've sung with us before or because I would like to invite you to join this year's group. These will be great performances, for a good cause-- the Chapin Foundation of Myrtle Beach is underwriting the Trinity performance so that tickets are free and sets of tickets will be offered to families through local charities. The Pawley's island performance is also free and is sponsored by All Saints Church. We are fortunate to have such great support!

The Concert Dates and times are:

TRINITY MYRTLE BEACH, Saturday, December 7th, 4pm and
ALL SAINTS PAWLEY’S, Sunday, December 8th, 2:30pm

Concert call times are To Be Determined.

Here are the rehearsals with Tim Koch.

Tuesday, November 12th, 7-9pm
Sunday, November 17th, 6-8pm
Tuesday, November 19th, 7-9pm
Sunday, November 24th, 6-8pm
(No Tuesday Rehearsal Thanksgiving Week)
Sunday, December 1st, 4-6pm (Note different time)
(No Tuesday Rehearsal Dec. 3rd due to CCU Choir)

There will also be dress rehearsal(s) with the orchestra the weekend of the concerts.

Friday, December 6th, 7-10pm (Choir dismisses early)
Saturday, December 7th, 10-1pm (Choir dismisses early)
Please RSVP so we know how many people may be coming to rehearsals. Also, if you have any singing friends you feel are up to this challenge, please e-mail me their contact info. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Ashley Sosis
thesosises@gmail.com

Sacred Music Institute of America, LLC

SACRED MUSIC INSTITUTE is a rather newly formed entity that is directed by Dr. Jason Keefer, Director of Music at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH.

They have an impressive faculty and staff and provide online courses in many areas of sacred music. Turn to their bold advertisement on page 15 of November’s American Organist journal. If you are interested in lifelong learning, this is a great opportunity!

Check out their website by clicking the link below:
https://www.sacredmusicinstitute.org/

Of special interest to our members who are liturgical organists

National Conference for Sacred Music 2020

January 8-10, 2020

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
405 King Street
Charleston, SC

Workshops presented by:
Tom Trenney
Go to the following website for additional information about the conference and registration.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-conference-for-sacred-music-2020-registration-60488585989

American Guild of Organists
2020 National Convention
July 6-10, 2020 Atlanta

To experience a "Kaleidoscope of Color and Sound", consider the national AGO Convention, July 6-10, 2020.
Go to www.agoatlanta2020.com for an exciting overview!

Registration Rates for regular AGO members

Super-Saver
Nov 1 - Nov 30: $375
Early Registration
Dec 1 - Jan 31: $435
Regular Registration
Feb 1 - Mar 31: $495
Final Registration
Apr 1 - July 10: $545

Use this code for the Special Rate: G-AGON

"For Sale"

Rodgers 805
2 Manual with AGO standard pedalboard

Excellent condition, perfect for home or small church.
Asking price $7,000 or best offer

Contact: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
North Myrtle Beach
First United Methodist
Music and Arts Events 2019-2020

1001 Fifth Avenue
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 488-4251

Sunday, November 10 at 4:00 pm
Long Bay Symphony Concert

A concert saluting veterans for service to our country featuring the Long Bay Symphony, Dr. Charles Jones Evans, conductor in our sanctuary. A ticketed event, but free to veterans.

Sundays, December 1, 8, and 15 4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Advent Concerts

A series of concerts in Advent with members of Long Bay Symphony in Hut Chapel.
December 1, Long Bay Youth Symphony String Quartet
December 8, Long Bay Symphony String Trio
and December 15, Long Bay Symphony Brass Quintet
Free concerts.

Wednesday, December 18 6:30 pm
Angels Say What?!

This Christmas musical for young voices by Alisen Wells & Ann Clark/arr. Nick Robertson will be presented by the Cherub and Wesley Treble Choirs complete with set, props, and wardrobe.
Sunday, December 22 10:30 a.m.

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Hal Hopson's compilation of Lessons and Carols presented by the Chancel Choir with FUMC Chamber Orchestra and members of Long Bay Symphony during worship on the fourth Sunday of Advent.

Monday, January 6 Noon

Hymns, Hotdogs, and Hamburgers

A quarterly luncheon in Fellowship Hall. The menu is hotdogs and hamburgers with condiments, tea, water, and dessert. Following lunch, everyone will have an opportunity to choose a hymn for everyone to sing. The luncheon is free, but there will be a basket at the door for anyone wishing to donate to help with expenses.

Sunday, February 9 10:30 a.m.

Festival of Hymns

The Chancel Choir, Carillon Choir and Wesley Treble Choir with organ, brass, timpani, and Highland Bagpipes of Conway will lead the congregation in a service of great hymns of faith.

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25 and April 1 Noon

Lenten Organ Meditations

Area Organists will present free 30 minute concerts on Wednesdays during Lent on the church’s III/34 Schantz Pipe Organ. Free and open to the public.

* Ticketed event

Thursday, December 5 7:30 pm
Friday, December 6 7:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
16th and Market St., Wilmington, NC
Choir of St. Paul's Concert: Handel's Messiah

TWO PERFORMANCES
Thursday, December 5, 7:30 PM
Friday, December 6, 7:30 PM
St. Paul's Episcopal, 16 N 16th St, Wilmington
TICKETS: $25 available at 910-762-4578
or spechurch.com/music

Enjoy Handel's Messiah performed by the Choir of St Paul's with soloists and the NC Baroque Orchestra in the exquisite acoustics of the St. Paul's sanctuary.

Get your tickets by calling (910) 762-4578 or www.spechurch.com/music

Monday, November 11, 2019 7:30 PM
Grace Cathedral
98 Wentworth Street
Charleston, SC
“A concert by the British choir Tenebrae is more than a performance. It’s an experience that envelops the audience… this is one of the best choirs in the world.” St. Louis Post-Dispatch

“For purity and precision of tone, and flawless intonation, Nigel Short’s chamber choir Tenebrae is pretty much unbeatable.” The Times

**Monday, November 11 at 7:30 pm**

Music by Allegri (Miserere mei, Deus), Victoria, Parry, Howells (Requiem) and others

**Tickets on sale now at:**
www.instantseats.com/events/GraceCharleston

Read more about Tenebrae at: www.tenebrae-choir.com

98 Wentworth Street, Charleston SC, 29401
http://gracechurchcharleston.org

**Tickets on sale now at:**
www.instantseats.com/events/GraceCharleston

Read more about Tenebrae at:
www.tenebrae-choir.com
Brown Bradley’s Promenades 2020

We believe that good music is the international language that unites all of God’s people.

Thursday, February 6, 2020 7:30 pm
Olga Kern, Piano
Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:30 pm
Jonathan Swensen, cello
Noreen Polera, piano

Thursday, March 5, 2020 7:30 pm
Paul Huang, violin
Helen Huang, piano

Thursday, March 19, 2020 7:30 pm

Great Revivals of Broadway
Kimilee Bryant & friends
with Promenade Band

First Presbyterian Church
3810 Robert Grissom Parkway
Myrtle Beach, SC
(843) 448-4496
Season tickets $75 - $100  
Individual tickets $25.00 at door for each concert when available

Join the AGO as a Grand Strand Chapter Member

When you join the American Guild of Organists, you are joining a national organization of people who
share a passion for the organ. Full voting membership includes both national and chapter benefits. There are more than 300 chapters located across the United States of America and abroad. Joining a local chapter allows you to enjoy camaraderie with other musicians in your local area.

https://www.agohq.org/membership/join-as-a-chapter-member/

Smile of the Month

You don't mind if I ask you to pick up the tempo on that anthem, do you?

Not if you don't mind if I ask you to pick up the tempo on that sermon.

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