

# The Richmond STOPLIST

January 2011

The Official Newsletter of the Richmond, Virginia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



From the officers, directors and staff of the Richmond AGO Chapter, best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

## OUR NEXT CHAPTER PROGRAM

A Celebration Of Black History Month

Just a reminder that our next chapter program and meeting will be at 4 PM on Sunday, February 6th at the Bon Air Baptist Church, 2531 Buford Road in Bon Air. This will be a concert in celebration of Black History Month. Dr. Karen Floyd Savage, Soprano, and voice students from VSU will perform along with Donald W. Anderson, Organist and Larry Bland and The Volunteer Choir. Our hosts for this event will be Bon Air Baptist Church, Paul Honaker, Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

## 100th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, December 4th, the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Richmond AGO Chapter was held at the Virginia Historical Society. Larry Robinson and Donald Traser assembled a collection of memorabilia from the chapter's history and a program featuring the recollections of Past Deans of the chapter was presented. Attendees also received an historic 1963 recording by the Richmond Festival Chorus, featuring our Past Dean John Haney at the organ.



At left: Current Dean Larry Heath is joined by former Deans Elvin Nicely, Betty Girardeau, Grant Hellmers, Bill Brown, Ardyth Lohuis, David McCormick, Steve Henley, Allen Bean, Donald Traser and Larry Robinson.

Below: Members view historic photos and documents.



## THINKING OUT LOUD

I am away on vacation...and hope you are enjoying some time for relaxation as well. I wish you a Happy and Fulfilling New Year and hope to see you at the next Dean's Lunch on Thursday, January 13, at noon at McAlister's Deli, Gayton Crossing, Gaskins Rd. at Gayton Rd. in the West End. 11:45 a.m. will beat the lunch rush.

*Larry Heath*

Dean  
Richmond Virginia Chapter AGO

Just a reminder to members that our chapter membership list is now available on-line from the website ([www.richmondago.org](http://www.richmondago.org)). A link is provided on the home page to allow members to download the password protected file. Members who have not received the password to unlock the file, should contact Betty Girardeau at [bettyg@redfamiliar.com](mailto:bettyg@redfamiliar.com) or Bruce Stevens at [bbstevens@erols.com](mailto:bbstevens@erols.com) to receive a password.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mr. R. Kent Hudson , 4836 Village Lake Drive, Richmond, VA 23234 804-714-0080, [khudson639@verizon.net](mailto:khudson639@verizon.net)

Mr. Carey Bliley, 6306 Wesley Road, Richmond, VA 23226 804-282-4266 [cbliley@blileys.com](mailto:cbliley@blileys.com)  
President, Bliley Funeral Home

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## DEATHS

Harold Carey Berkeley, grandfather of Carey Bliley, passed away on December 12th.

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## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cathy Grant 1/2  
Sally Mayton 1/11  
Colleen Crafton 1/16  
Bob Scoggins 1/18  
Ann Boelzner 1/22  
John Lee 1/22





## JANUARY CONCERTS AT CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART

Soprano Anne O'Byrne & Baritone Rev. Michael Renninger, accompanied by Patrick Carlin will present a FREE one-hour concert of music by Mozart, Lehar, Donaudy, and others on Sunday, January 16th, at 2:00 pm, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

The complete program may be viewed on the music page of the Cathedral website at [www.richmondcathedral.org](http://www.richmondcathedral.org). 359-5651

## AROUND THE TOWN

### Epiphany Lessons and Carols

Sunday, January 9, 2011, 5 P.M. Epiphany Lessons and Carols directed by Nick Stephenson. Saint Andrew's Church, Laurel Street and Idlewood Avenue. Reception to follow in parish house. For further information, please contact: Donald Traser, [Donald\\_Traser@CSX.com](mailto:Donald_Traser@CSX.com).

### Russell Wilson to perform

Sunday, January 9, 2011, at 4:00 P.M. Second Sunday South of the James Concert Series presents Russell Wilson, Pianist. Free will offering. Free parking. Bon Air Presbyterian Church, 9201 W. Huguenot Road, Richmond, VA 23235. 804-272-7514 ext. 312

### City Singers Children's Choir to perform

January 16, 3 P.M: City Singers Children's Choirs invite you to a Wintertide Concert Sunday, January 16, 3 P.M. Ginter Park Presbyterian Church. Free. Parking in church lot or on street. Leslie Dripps and Andrea Spackman, directing. Call 321-4811 for information.

### Celebration Of Unity Concert

January 17 at 7:30 P.M: There will be a Celebration of Unity concert at Grace & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church on Monday, January 17 at 7:30 P.M. This concert will feature the Grace & Holy Trinity Adult Choir, Greater Richmond Children's Choir, and the Sanctuary Choir of Riverview Baptist Church. These three choirs will perform anthems and spirituals in honor of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther, King, Jr. The church is located at 8 North Laurel Street next to the Landmark Theater. Parking is available at the rear of the church. For more information, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis at (804) 359-5628, ext. 18.

### Recommended Reading

Dr. Ardyth Lohuis alerts us that an excellent organ related article appeared in the Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010 issue of The Globe and Mail. Written by John Allemang, it is entitled "The lonely tune of the mighty pipe organ" and addresses the challenge of getting new listeners through the church doors to experience organ programs. In an age of I-pods and high level technology for the masses, the author cites specific examples of what is being done to attract young people to the organ, and how contemporary music of today can be used to interest young listeners. The article is available on the Web at: <http://m.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/the-lonely-tune-of-the-mighty-pipe-organ/article1843070/?service=mobile&page=0#article>



# Bruton Candlelight Concerts

January, 2011

## *Candlelight Concerts at Bruton Parish Church*

**Saturday, January 1 @ 8:00 pm**

*Holiday Organ Recital*

Ross Ellis Organist from Millersville  
University in Millersville, Pennsylvania

**Saturday, January 8 @ 8:00 pm**

*Organ Recital*

Rebecca Davy, Organist at Bruton Parish

**Saturday, January 15 @ 8:00 pm**

*Organ Recital*

Rebecca Davy, Organist at Bruton Parish

**Saturday, January 22 @ 8:00 pm**

*Harpichord Recital*

Rebecca Davy, Organist at Bruton Parish &  
Thomas Marshall, Organist at First United  
Methodist Church in Williamsburg

**Saturday, January 29 @ 8:00 pm**

*Organ Recital*

Rebecca Davy, Organist at Bruton Parish

## *Historic Organ Recitals Wren Chapel, College of William & Mary*

**Saturday, January 1 @ 10:00 am** *Historical*  
*Organ Recital* – Dr. Edwin Godshall

**Saturday, January 8 @ 10:00 am** *Historical*  
*Organ Recital* – James Darling

**Saturday, January 15 @ 10:00 am** *Historical*  
*Organ Recital* – James Darling

**Saturday, January 22 @ 10:00 am** *Historical*  
*Organ Recital* – James Darling

**Saturday, January 22 @ 10:00 am** *Historical*  
*Organ Recital* – Rebecca Davy

Dr. JanEl B. Will, Director of Music & Organist  
Rebecca E. Davy, Organist & Choir Director  
James S. Darling, Choirmaster Emeritus

Contact: [bdavy@brutonparish.org](mailto:bdavy@brutonparish.org) or (757) 645-3431  
[www.brutonparish.org](http://www.brutonparish.org)

# POSITIONS AVAILABLE

*Listings in this column appear for a maximum of 90 days and then are removed unless an extension is requested. When a listing is removed, therefore, it does not necessarily mean that the position has been filled. To submit a listing, contact our Referral Service Director, Betty Girardeau*

## **SKIPWITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2211 Skipwith Road  
Richmond, VA, 23924.

Seeking accompanist to support the traditional worship service at 9 AM each Sunday as well as Thursday evening weekly choir rehearsal. Proficiency on the piano required; organ proficiency would be a plus. Allen two manual electronic organ. Compensation is \$100 per week. Call the church at 804-270-6560 or write to the above address or via e-mail to skipwithumc@comcast.net.

## **DERBYSHIRE BAPTIST CHURCH**

8800 Derbyshire Road,  
Richmond, Virginia, 23229.

Seeking part-time organist to accompany the Sunday 11:00AM service and Wednesday evening choir rehearsal. Additional duties include accompanying weddings, funerals and special seasonal services as needed. Candidate should be comfortable with a broad range of musical styles. Zimmer pipe organ of 31 ranks. Salary range begins at \$13,000 per year with 2 weeks paid vacation. More information is available at [www.DBCRichmond.org](http://www.DBCRichmond.org). Please submit resumes to: Organist Search Committee at the church address above, or via e-mail to [DSchwoebel@DBCRichmond.org](mailto:DSchwoebel@DBCRichmond.org).

## **CHAMBERLAYNE HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

6100 Chamberlayne Road  
Richmond VA, 23227

Seeking part-time Director of Music Ministries for two Sunday services, two adult choir rehearsals mid week, as well as other worship occasions such as Thanksgiving, Christmas Season, Lent/Easter, and others planned by the Pastor. Candidate should be proficient on Rogers 3 manual organ and piano. Candidate should be open to and possess a working knowledge of a variety of music styles, genre, and repertoire appropriate for worship. Salary \$16,000.00 per annum with 4 weeks paid vacation. Interested applicants should send resumes and contact information to Chamberlayne Heights, UMC, Attention: Pastor, at the above address of by e-mail to [office@chamberlayneheightsumc.org](mailto:office@chamberlayneheightsumc.org). The church may be reached by phone at 804-266-3551.

## **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Tappahannock, VA, 22566

Seeking part-time organist for 1 Sunday service (Eucharist 3 Sundays, Morning Prayer 1 Sunday) with special services throughout the church year. Rogers 805C 2 manual electronic organ. Applicant should have knowledge of and experience with Episcopal liturgy. Salary range \$12,000 to \$13,000 per annum with 4 weeks paid vacation as well as book and music allowance and dues to professional associations. Contact either The Rev. Bill Pickering at (804)643-1025 or Howard Reisinger at (804)443-3738.

## **LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

343 Hermitage Road  
Henrico, Virginia, 23228

Seeking part time organist/choir director to provide instrumental music and lead choral music for Sunday worship and special services of the church year and one weekly choir rehearsal. Allen Renaissance 27 two manual organ purchased in 2003. Salary range \$10,000 to \$13,000 per year, depending on background and experience, with 2 weeks paid vacation. Resumes, including a short description of 250 words or less of the candidates musical leadership style, should be sent to church at the above address, attention Pat Dementi, Search Committee. For more information, including a full job description, contact Lakeside Presbyterian Church, (804) 266-1231 or go to [www.lakeside-presbyterian.org](http://www.lakeside-presbyterian.org).

# SUBSTITUTES

The persons listed below have indicated a desire to be called for substituting at church services. No specific qualifications are implied by their inclusion on this list.

*The employer is responsible for determining that a substitute will adequately meet the needs of the church.*

Questions should be addressed to Betty Girardeau by e-mail at [bettyg@redfamiliar.com](mailto:bettyg@redfamiliar.com) or by phone at 804 647-0825.

<b>Gullicksen, Rita</b> (weddings, funerals and special events)	804 272-0505
<b>Nowowieski, Adella</b> Interim work, Sat/Sun/Special svcs., Accompanist, Choral work - all denominations.	804 288-0917
<b>Sachs, David</b> (weddings, memorial and funeral services )	804 222-2494
Correction to Yearbook: Mr. Sachs is available for Sunday AM services for the 2009-2010 season.	
<b>Lindsey, Charles</b> (weddings, funerals and non-Sunday events)	804 370-7374
<b>Schrock, Patricia</b> (weddings, funerals and non-Sunday events)	804 254-2744
<b>Worsham, Marsha Ann</b>	804 883-6035
<b>Schutt, Ed</b> (weddings, funerals, concerts, special programs/services)	804 564-4887
<b>Hudson, Teresa</b>	804 245-0827
<b>Smithdeal, Cynthia</b>	804 739-3948
<b>Branch, Ada Andrews</b>	804 862-4480 (H)
<b>Candler-White, Laura</b> (accompanying, recitals, weddings, funerals, special events)	804 360-5754
<b>Davis, Debbie</b>	804 921-8234
<b>Creager, Alice, AAGO</b>	804 935-8735
<b>Freude, Sharon</b>	804 353-4683
<b>Frolund, Bodil</b>	804 330-7689
<b>Van Ornam, Cheryl</b> (weddings, funerals, accompanying, special programs)	804 814-6677
<b>Gillespie, Joan</b>	804 270-3569 (H)
<b>Heath, Margie</b>	804 730-2196
<b>Johnson, Betty Lou</b>	804 323-3970
<b>Stephens, Dennis</b>	804 529-9999
<b>Kerschbaumer, Evelyn</b>	804 744-3147
<b>Salmeri, Connie</b>	804 320-4310
<b>Suerken, Ernest A.</b>	804 272-5545
<b>Campbell, Mary E.</b>	804 288-4098
<b>Mayton, Sally P.</b> (Crewe, Va)	434 645-7527 or cell 434 607-6327
<b>Payne, Kenna</b>	804 272-9656
<b>Lawrence C. Goddard</b> (Weems, Va)	church 804 438-6875 cell 804 577-7030
<b>Grant Hellmers</b>	Not available on Sunday mornings
<b>Donald Moro</b> (Weddings, funerals, accompanying, choral directing, interim work, Sundays)	804 353-5236
<b>Donna Lewis</b>	804 652-9590
<b>Cathy Grant</b> (Charlottesville area)	804 746-1131
<b>Agnes French</b> (Williamsburg area)	757-229-0617
	757-345-6355



American Guild of Organists, Richmond Chapter  
John G. DeMajo, Editor  
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Chesterfield, VA 23832

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

We're on the Web!  
<http://www.richmondago.org>

## DID YOU KNOW?



Here's hoping that everyone had a great Christmas and holiday season. Well it is a new year, and your editor has been very busy scouting out unusual organs and venues again. This month, we visit the **King of the "King of Instruments,"** the world's largest pipe organ. Located on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, New Jersey, the original convention hall, which played host to the Miss America Pageant for so many years, also happens to be the home of the world's largest pipe organ. Designed by New Jersey Senator Emerson L. Richards, and constructed in 1929, this monster instrument boasts 449 ranks, seven manuals, and some of the largest pipe work ever constructed. The hall's ballroom also contains a separate theatre organ which is second in size only to Radio City Music Hall, and in fact, Radio City Music Hall's entire auditorium could fit inside of the ACCH's ballroom. But today, we are going to concentrate mainly on the giant Midmer-Losh organ in the grand auditorium.

The massive instrument boasts the only true 64 foot stop (not resultant) in the US, and only one of two in the world. The other 64' is located in Sidney, Australia. It also has the loudest organ reed in the world, a stop which runs on 100 inches of wind pressure and which produces a 120 decibel sound on the main floor of the auditorium. The instrument is located in numerous chambers throughout the hall, and the seven manual console is something to behold. For many years, the organ was allowed to fall into disrepair. Asbestos, located throughout the building, contributed to its deterioration by denying chamber access to technicians. As of this writing, the asbestos has been removed and the building has undergone renovation. A non-profit group, The Atlantic City Convention Hall Organ Society, has formed with the intent of restoring the instrument to its original glory. Although some parts of the organ are playable again, nine-million-dollars are needed to completely fund the organ restoration project. The group has already raised enough money to renovate the ballroom theatre organ, and it should be rededicated this Spring. That is definitely something to look forward to in the new year. I have in my collection, a Robert Elmore recording of both organs that was made many years ago. Even with the lack of digital technology in that early recording, the excitement of these two instruments is overwhelming, and I can hardly wait to hear them play again.

*Photos: Console shot above. Right: mouth of the 2200 pound 32' Principal, second largest rank in the organ.*

