



### **Low Country Chapter 2014 – 2015 Officers**

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#### **Dr. JooSoo Son (2016)**

#### **Beth Corry (2017)**

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**National AGO Web Site**  
[www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)

# August Pipings

2014 - The Year of the Organ

## A note from the Dean:

Well, we're over the 'hump' of summer and hopefully, August will be a little cooler and the weather will be a little calmer.

Years ago, I played a delightful 19-stop 29-rank Andover tracker organ at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Augusta, Maine for a little over 7 years. Thru the heat and humidity of summer and the cold and dry of winter, that organ and I bonded in a way that I never experienced before or since.

The wheezing of the motors to open the sliders on stops during a hot July evening and the way the reed stops would go a little crazy practicing late on a Sunday night in January are memories that I actually cherish since my relationship with that instrument was so total, so intimate, that it eventually became an extension of my heart and soul and the interface disappeared! What a wonderful experience that was – I truly hope that all of you who are organ players will, during the course of your life, experience that feeling at least once!

I mention this because today, regardless of heat or cold, humidity or dryness, our lives here on the SE Coast of South Carolina are so 'insulated' in so many ways as most of us live in climate controlled houses and play in climate controlled churches. When was the last time your truck (or car) died at 6am on a Sunday in February while driving the 20 miles to church because it was 5 degrees above zero and you forgot to add 'dry gas' to the gas tank when you filled it the night before? Even though I now have a 62 mile commute to church from my home out here in Hampton County, I have never had that happen here!

So, when I stepped out of church this evening from Choir rehearsal and my glasses fogged with the Island's humidity, I thought back to that Sunday morning in Winthrop, Maine and chuckled. Though, to tell you the truth, I'd give anything to be playing that organ in that church again... Ah well... enough reminiscing.

## So, here's the good news!

**On Monday evening, September 8**, we will all be gathering again at the lovely home of Glenn and Cathy Ragsdale on Spring Island (off Callawassee Island) for a Potluck dinner followed by an anthem sharing session. This evening will give us a chance to visit, talk, sing and eat! Glenn and Cathy hosted us last year and we had a wonderful time! As time gets closer, you'll want to email Gary Rakestraw that you'll be coming and what wonderful treat you will bring to share. Also, should you have any favorite anthems, let him know and bring enough with you so we can all sing along – (I have been introduced to some of my favorite anthems during sharing sessions like this in the past!) We will **gather at 6pm**, and **eat together from 6:30 to 7:30**, and then enjoy some wonderful music!

**On Monday evening, October 13** we will be gathering at **7pm** for an informal yet informative session of organ registration. Over the years, many of us have developed registration schemes for hymns, anthems, organ preludes, and just our favorite organ pieces. Sharing those little ideas with each other is not only educational, but fun as well. Place will be announced soon.

**On Sunday, November 9**, member Tom Fierro will be hosting us and our choirs for our 2014 Choral Festival at Saint Peter's in Beaufort. I anticipate a warm up of the 3 anthems that we will all sing together at 2 pm and the Festival Program will begin at 3 pm. Participating choirs will be asked to prepare 2 anthems that they will perform by themselves in addition to the 3 anthems that we will all learn. More details will be forthcoming.

**On Friday, December 12**, we will gather for a Member Christmas Recital at Noon as part of our Second Friday Series at Saint Luke's Church, Hilton Head.

### **2015 Programs will include**

- a Pizza and Pipes Organ Crawl – inviting not only our membership, but also budding organ and piano students.
- a program dedicated to the organ music of the 'French Romantic Period' with a catered dinner before and some of the most wonderful and exciting music to play and listen to
- our BachFest 2015, which is looking to involve 5 or 6 different programs spread between Beaufort and Hilton Head – voice, organ, orchestral instruments, and even a surprise program that members will find particularly intriguing and interesting.
- a program on Chant - encompassing several different types of chant – lovely and spiritual to listen to and satisfying to perform.
- and the Chapter's Program Year will end in May with an organ crawl in Charleston, followed by dinner at 'California Dreaming'.

Please, plan on joining together on September 8 at 6pm and help us kick-off what promises to be a diverse and fun program year! I promise to make something interesting to eat this year!

See you then~

Jonathan Davis, Dean  
Low Country Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



## A Note from the Secretary, Gil Campbell:

Your Executive Board has met monthly and is well on its way to planning an exciting calendar of events for the coming 2014-2015 year.

Our first event is planned for Monday, September 8, 2014 at the Ragdale's home. It will be a pot luck supper (please bring a favorite hot dish, salad or dessert). We are also encouraging members to bring a few choir anthems from their churches' collections that we can have fun sight reading together.

On Monday, October 13, 2014 we will have a program on organ registrations. We are hoping to be able to use the large pipe organ at First Presbyterian Church on Hilton Head Island.

On Sunday, November 9, 2014, tentatively from 3:00 - 4:30 pm, we will have our fall fundraiser, a Choir Festival modeled after our successful event last year at Holy Family Catholic Church. This year it will be held in Beaufort, probably at St. Peter's Catholic Church.

In 2015, between March 15-22 we plan to host a series of concerts at various venues all to celebrate the birthday of Johann Sebastian Bach. We hope to have an organ recital in each of Beaufort and Hilton Head, a choral concert in each city, and some other programs.

We hope you will plan to attend as many of these events as possible. Watch for details in future newsletters.

## A Note from the Registrar, Greg Hollinger

**Thank you** to the members and friends who have renewed their membership with Low Country Chapter so far. As of this writing, July 29, we have sixteen (16) renewals for the 2014-2015 fiscal year which runs July 1-June 30.

If you have not yet renewed, please do so as soon as possible. If you did not receive your emailed invoice or need assistance, please contact me [pvrcoho@aol.com](mailto:pvrcoho@aol.com) me or Treasurer Gary Rakestraw [grakestraw@hotmail.com](mailto:grakestraw@hotmail.com).

If you'd like to "give the gift of membership" to a loved one, an esteemed colleague, your minister, or a friend who is interested in music, you may do so by going to our National website, [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org), and click MEMBERSHIP and then JOIN THE GUILD. (Of course, you would want to ask the recipient's permission before you "join them up.")



# A Note from the Treasurer, Gary Rakestraw:

## ADVERTISE WITH LCC-AGO!!!

As stated last month, the Executive Board has voted to continue accepting ads for publication in our newsletters, our programs, and on our website. The prices have not changed from last year.

Therefore, LCC is now accepting ads to be placed in our media for the July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 fiscal year.

A Full-page ad is \$200.

A Half-page ad is \$100.

A quarter-page ad is \$50.

(Actual page sizes will vary, depending on the size of the media.)

LCC members and friends are eligible for a 25% discount if the ad is for your OWN business (*not* to include the church where you are employed).

Ads will run in all LCC programs throughout the year including our membership directory, monthly Second Friday Noon Concert programs, and our website.

In addition, please note: Ads CAN be updated throughout the year as necessary, so, for example, if your church purchases an ad for a concert series, supplying us with an updated pdf file will ensure that the most current version of the ad is used in all our venues. If you own a business or service and specials happen or other changes need to be made, the same applies! So, take advantage of this service and we'll keep your ads current!

Members and friends are encouraged to assist us by contacting friends with businesses to ask if they might consider advertising with us.

Copy-ready ads and remittance may be sent to our treasurer:

Gary Rakestraw  
5 Spring Knob Circle  
Beaufort, SC 29907

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Please submit your news, events, comments, experiences, summer conference reports, upcoming music conferences, updates, **anything of interest** to your fellow chapter members to:

WEBMASTER Gary Rakestraw [grakestraw@hotmail.com](mailto:grakestraw@hotmail.com) Our chapter website is [lccago.org](http://lccago.org).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Linda Hamilton [liturgicalinda@hotmail.com](mailto:liturgicalinda@hotmail.com)

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Visit our Website:  
LCCAGO.ORG

## UPCOMING SECOND FRIDAY AT NOON CONCERTS

# LOW COUNTRY CHAPTER AGO

2014 Organ Recital Series

St. Luke's Church  
50 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head Island, SC

Nina L. Rodman, Series Coordinator

**August 8, 2014 – 2nd Friday at Noon**

**Jacob Reed**

**Yale University School of Music (and student of Thomas Murray)**

## FUTURE CONCERTS IN 2014:

September 12 – TBA

October 10 – Gil Campbell

November 14 – TBA

December 12 - Members of Low Country Chapter, AGO, Christmas



# UPCOMING MEMBER RECITAL

## Richard Gray in Concert

Friday, **August 29, 2014** at 7pm

The Parish Church of St. Helena  
505 Church Street  
Beaufort, SC

### PROGRAM

Tocatta in C Major	Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)
Passacaglia in D Minor, BuxWV 161	Dieterich Buxtehude (ca. 1637-1707)
<i>Pange Lingua</i> En taille á 4	Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)
Fugue á 5 Récit du chant de l'hymne précédent	
Ciaccona	Bernardo Storace (fl. 1664)
<i>Nun, komm der Heiden Heiland</i> , BWV 659	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542	Johann Sebastian Bach

**Richard L. Gray**, of Beaufort, SC, is a rising senior at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he is pursuing the Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance as a student of James David Christie. In the fall of 2012, he studied additionally with Oberlin's Distinguished Visiting Professor of Organ, Marie-Louise Langlais. He began his musical studies at the age of thirteen with Mary Ingrassia and Gary Rakestraw, both of Beaufort.

At Oberlin, Gray has studied piano and sacred music skills with Jonathan Moyer and choral conducting with Jason Harris and Jody Kerchner. He has been an organist at St. Peter's Catholic Church (Beaufort) and First United Methodist Church (Oberlin.) In January 2013, he was a sacred music intern under music director William Ness at the First Baptist Church in Worcester, MA. This coming January, Gray will serve as the choral conducting intern at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, MD where he will work alongside Matthew Robertson. In July 2013, he was a student at the McGill Summer Organ Academy in Montréal where he studied French Classical music with John Grew.

An active performer, Gray has performed at notable venues including National City Christian Church in Washington, DC, Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda, MD, and Church of the Covenant in Cleveland, OH. He was also a featured artist in the L'Organo Series of the 2014 Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC. After completing his studies at Oberlin, Gray plans to pursue further study in organ and choral conducting.



**Congratulations to our member  
JooSoo Son on the birth of  
Daniel Kim, born on July 7<sup>th</sup>,  
7 pounds, 18 ½ inches.**



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# Music at St. Helena's

## FRIDAY ORGAN CONCERTS AT NOON



### Fall 2014 Schedule

**October 3**  
Matthew Brown  
*Salisbury, NC*

**October 10**  
**FEATURED YOUNG**  
**ORGANIST**  
John Stender  
*Indiana University*

**October 17**  
Luca Pollastri  
*Italy*

**October 31**  
Emanuele Cardi  
*Italy*

**November 7**  
Johan Hermans  
*Hasselt, Belgium*

### Spring 2015 Schedule

**March 20**  
Dr. Sarah Kraaz  
*Wisconsin*

**March 27**  
Henry Fairs  
*England*

**April 10**  
**FEATURED YOUNG**  
**ORGANIST**  
Jonathan Yau  
*Oberlin College*

**April 17**  
Dr. Steven Young  
*Bridgewater State University*

**April 24**  
Dr. JeeYoon Choi  
*First Scots, Charleston*

Most concerts  
last approximately  
50 minutes

Concerts are FREE and open to the public.  
Donations are greatly appreciated.  
For more information, please call Pat Gould at  
(843) 522-1712, ext. 214.

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[StHelenas1712.org](http://StHelenas1712.org)

# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS:

## Hand Bell Workshop

Date/ Time: September 26 (Friday): 5:30 pm – 8 pm

September 27 (Saturday): 9 am- 4pm

Location: Providence Presbyterian Church Fellowship hall

171 Cordillo Parkway, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

843842-5673

Clinician: Lynne Marks

Area 4 Past Chair, Handbell Musicians of America

For more information about the clinician, check the below website

(<http://area4handbells.weebly.com/area-4-board.html>)

Registration fee: \$50 per ringer

(including Saturday Lunch. Music should be purchased by participants)

Repertoire: TBA

(Participants are expected to learn this music before the workshop)

Please contact JooSoo Son (Music Director at Providence Presbyterian Church)

if you or your choir is interested in this seminar.

Church Office: 843-842-5673

Email: [mlmhs@hotmai.com](mailto:mlmhs@hotmai.com)



# THE ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN MUSICIANS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

## Fall Workshop

**Saturday, October 18, 2014**

More information to follow.

Please share this information with your friends (any denomination.)

**The Association of Lutheran Musicians of South Carolina** is a SC based organization.

Contact Susan Sturkie at [sloopystur@aol.com](mailto:sloopystur@aol.com) for more information.

We are often confused with **The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM)** which is a national organization.

More information can be found about this organization at [www.alcm.org](http://www.alcm.org).

