



# Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

*The*  
*Clarion*  
June 2021

[www.cacago.org](http://www.cacago.org)

## Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

## 2020-2021 Officers

Beau Baldwin, *dean*

Vacant, *sub-dean*

Jess Anthony, *treasurer*

Jane Gamble, *secretary*

## Executive Committee

Bob Bidewell (2021)

Betty Cohen (2022)

Karen Horton (2023)

## Committee Chairs

### PROGRAM

Beau Baldwin

### EDITOR

Adam Savacool

### REPORTER

Betty Cohen

### PUBLICITY

Betty Cohen

## From the Dean

Greetings!

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the beginning of summer. It seems that life is returning to a state of normalcy! I am hopeful that our church and civic life will fully resume this fall.

In this newsletter you will see the slate of officers and member at large for the 2021-2022 year. Thanks to all who have agreed to serve. The Dean, Sub-dean, Secretary, and Treasurer are a slate, and there is a choice for a position on the board. Ballots will be mailed to all active members this week along with pre-stamped return envelopes. Please vote, and I ask that the ballots are in the mail by Thursday, June 24. Thanks to the nominating committee for their work!

We have our only in-person event of the 2020-2021 season on Friday, June 18 at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Little Rock at 7:30 p.m. in the evening. This recital is the

Seventeenth Organ Recital Celebrating the Life of Robert Young Ellis. Alden Wright, a recent graduate of the Eastman School of Music, is playing for us. You can find more information about Alden and his recital in this newsletter. There is no dinner or meeting before this event, but please join us for a reception following the recital. I hope to see you there!

This is my final letter to you as Dean of CACAGO. It has been a challenging year for the AGO with the pandemic. Again, I am hopeful that the fall will be more normal and that regular AGO meetings can resume. Thank you for your support over the past few years, and I look forward to seeing you all around.

Cheers!

Beau Baldwin

## JUNE MEETING

The Seventeenth Annual Concert  
Celebrating the Life of Robert Young Ellis  
Alden Wright, *organist*

🕒 **Friday, June 18, 2021**  
7:30 P.M. – Concert

📍 **Cathedral of Saint Andrew**  
617 Louisiana St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

## Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of nominees for 2021-2022.

**Dean:** Bob Bidewell

**Sub-Dean:** Charles Russell

**Secretary:** Jane Gamble

**Treasurer:** Jess Anthony

**Executive Committee (2024):**

Jason Saugey

Rosemarie Ochoa

# Biography of Alden Wright

Alden Wright is a recent graduate from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied organ with Nathan Laube. He is a native of Salisbury, North Carolina. As a performer and national young competitor, Alden holds several distinctions, including being named the winner of the 2019 Arthur Poister National Competition in Organ Playing. Previous awards include first place in the 2014 Columbia, SC AGO Young Organist Competition and the 2016 University of North Carolina School of the Arts Organ Competition. He was a recipient of the Robert and Ann Stigall Scholarship, sponsored by the Charlotte Chapter of the American Guild of Organists from 2013-2015, and was awarded the Pogorzelski-Yankee Memorial Scholarship for undergraduate studies. Alden has performed in many student and solo recitals throughout the country and has participated in masterclasses

with many of the world's top performers. As a passionate church musician, Alden enjoys developing his knowledge of liturgical music through programs such as the Royal School of Church Music's Carolina Course, hosted at Duke University, where he served as Organ Scholar in the summer of 2019. Previously, Alden has held a number of prestigious positions including Assistant Organist to Director of Music Peter DuBois at Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester from 2018-2020. Following his studies at Eastman, Alden was appointed to serve as Organ Scholar at Truro Cathedral in Truro, England under Director of Music Christopher Gray, an opportunity which was postponed and deferred due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, but which will be realized in August 2021.

## June Program

Alden Wright, *organist*

### **Organ Sonata in G Major, Op. 28**

I. Allegro maestoso

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

### **Fantasie Choral No. 1 in D-flat Major**

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

### **Trois Pièces**

III. Pièce héroïque

César Franck (1822-1890)

### **Intermission**

### **Clavier-Übung III**

Fuga pro Organo pleno, BWV 552

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

### **Suite No. 2 for Organ**

Lullaby

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

### **Prélude, Adagio et Choral varié sur le 'Veni Creator'**

Maurice Durufle (1902-1986)

## Wesley Morris Parker (1927 – 2021)

Wesley Morris Parker, age 93, died on February 25, 2021. He was born August 25, 1927 in Little Rock, Ark., the youngest child of John Wesley Parker and Cleda Lancaster Parker. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Merrill William Parker, Marion Edward Parker, and Melvin Riley Parker, as well as by his sister Mildred Parker Devoe. He is survived by his nephew, James Melvin Parker (Judy) of Conway, Ark.; two great-nieces, Kelly Robbins Koenigsberger (Uwe), Huntington, N.Y., and Holly Robbins Paynter (Todd), Paragould, Ark.; a great-great-nephew, Matthew Paynter and Sarah Paynter.

Parker served in the United States Army, the U.S. Army Reserve and the United States Air Force.

He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a Master of Arts Degree from Chicago State University. In addition, he studied at the University of South Carolina, the University of Maryland (overseas program), Northwestern University, Northeastern Illinois University, the University of Illinois (Chicago Circle Campus), New York University, the University of York (England), Cambridge University (England) and Newbattle Abbey College (Scotland).

Mr. Parker taught high school English for 33 years, first in the Pulaski County Special School District, then in Springfield, Ill., Calumet City, Ill., Skokie, Ill., and finally in the Little Rock Arkansas School District.

He was an Episcopalian and a faithful member of Christ Episcopal Church of Little Rock.

At the request of Mr. Parker, there will be no services. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery, Little Rock, Ark. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church of Little Rock.

## Treasurer's Report

INCOME	EXPENSES
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>
Dues \$1,643.00	Dues to National
Ad Sales	Catering/Reception
Meals	Marketing/Public Relations
Carry Over (FY20) \$1,278.51	Remaining Expenses <u>\$1,396.94</u>
Other/Mail <u>                    </u>	<u>\$1,396.94</u>
\$2,921.51	
<b>SUPPORT</b>	<b>ARTISTIC</b>
Individuals \$2,800.00	Artist Fees/Housing
Foundation Accounts \$1,221.00	Remaining Expenses (ACH) \$105.00
Endowment <u>                    </u>	Tech/Production <u>                    </u>
<u>\$4,021.00</u>	<u>\$105.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b> \$6,942.51	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> \$1,501.94
	<b>BALANCE</b> \$5,440.57

THE SEVENTEENTH  
ORGAN RECITAL

*Celebrating the Life of Robert Young Ellis*



Alden Wright

FRIDAY, 18 JUNE 2021 ♦ 7:30 P.M.

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT ANDREW

617 LOUISIANA STREET ♦ LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

*The concert is also in memory of Emily Cooper Gibson, J.T. Shrigley,  
David Scribner, Bryan K. Gray, Richard C. Butler, Beverly Jackson McCain,  
Susy Wylie Beck, June Williams, Morris Parker & Wayne McAfee.*

Central Arkansas  
Chapter of the  
American Guild  
of Organists



The Robert Ellis Trust

♦  
A Gift from  
Gerald Gibson