



CONVENTION CORNER

Can you believe it? We have less than 30 days until the Region III Convention occurs on June 27-30 at the Hilton Harrisburg Hotel. The Steering Committee, chaired by Shirley King, has been planning all the details of this event for the past three years (that's almost 36 months) and we are well on our way to hosting friends and colleagues at this year's Regional convention. We believe it will be a great convention with wonderful artists at some of the best venues south central PA has to offer. We invite you to attend and participate. What an honor for the Harrisburg chapter to be invited to host this convention.

The convention starts on Monday, June 27th with the Opening Festival Celebration at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick on State Street in Harrisburg. Philadelphia native John Tuttle will perform the prelude at 7:00 p.m. and will improvise on the Gregorian Antiphons for the psalms during the service. The festival will be a service of Roman Vespers with brass and combined choirs directed by Thomas Clark-Jones with Father James Lease, our Harrisburg Chapter Chaplain, presiding. St. Patrick cathedral organist, Nicholas Basehore will play for the service. There will be two commissioned works by Robert Lau performed during the service. This truly sounds like a great start to a wonderful convention and one you will not want to miss.

Some other special recitals to note are the following:

- 6-28 "Stars of the Future" organ recital, Camp Hill Presbyterian Church, 9:45 a.m.
- 6-28 AGO/Quimby Competition of Young Organists Winner recital, Trinity Lutheran Church, 11:15 a.m.
- 6-28 Organist Diane Meredith Belcher, Market Square Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m.
- 6-29 Organist Rhonda Sider Edgington alternating with Craig Cramer recital (two locations), 10:00 a.m.
- 6-29 Choral Concert by Lyric Consort of Northeastern PA, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 4:30 p.m.
- 6-29 Organist Mark Laubach, Pine Street Presbyterian church, 7:30 p.m.
- 6-30 Organist Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, Lebanon Valley College Chapel, 10:15 a.m.
- 6-30 Organist Marcos Krieger, First United Methodist Church, Hershey, 1:15 p.m.
- 6-30 Internationally renowned organist Hector Olivera, The Forum, 8:00 p.m.

All of the recitals are open to the public however a ticket is required for the Hector Olivera concert held on Thursday, June 30th at 8:00 PM. The Whitaker Center will handle the sale of tickets for this event. **Please note: If you are registered for the convention, this concert is included in your registration fee.** Please invite your family and friends to come to this concert. Tickets can be purchased by telephone at 717-214-2787 or online at www.whitakercenter.org. For more information about the Hector Olivera performance, click on "Stage/Performances/June 2011" on the Whitaker site. Discounted ticket prices for group sales are available.

A few reminders –

- The Walnut Street Parking Garage is attached to the Hilton Hotel with 1,100 parking spaces. Registered guests will be charged a \$10.00 fee for overnight parking with unlimited exits. Day registrants who park in the Walnut Street garage can get a \$5.00 parking pass at the Hotel gift shop. This is a one time exit and is not for unlimited exits. There are also three nearby parking garages, located at 214 Locust St.; River St. at Second St.; and Market Square, at Market & Chestnut Sts. All charge \$16.00 for five to eleven hours of parking. For evening concerts, (5 pm to 5 am) the charge is \$5.00.

- The AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill on Monday, June 27th and is open to the public. The competition will begin at 9:30 a.m. The 1st place winner of this competition will perform a recital on Tuesday morning. The 2nd place winner will perform on Wednesday prior to the Choral concert.
- The Hilton Harrisburg hotel has informed us that we have filled our quota of discounted rooms. If you haven't made a room reservation, you can reserve your accommodations with the Crowne Plaza by calling [717-234-5021](tel:717-234-5021) or their toll free number: 1-800-2CROWNE. In order to get the group discounted rate please provide your group name: **American Guild of Organists Harrisburg Chapter**, or group code: **AGO**. You can also make your reservations online by clicking on the group customized booking link [American Guild of Organists Harrisburg Chapter](#). Then fill out all your reservation information and you are all done!
- If you are looking for a roommate to share the expenses of your hotel room, please contact Doris Savage at dorisagohbg@comcast.net or by telephone at 717-697-4042.
- There will be a choral reading workshop hosted by Paraclete on Tuesday at 5:15 to 6:15 pm at the Zion Lutheran Church in the church Sanctuary.
- There are numerous opportunities during the convention for which volunteers are needed. Please note that we have worked hard to keep our convention costs as low as possible -- thus we are following the usual AGO practice of expecting the host chapter members to register for the convention. Chapter volunteers are expected to be convention registrants. Please contact volunteer coordinators Judy Schrack (432-4920) and Ruth Brommer (763-1865) if you are available to help. Bob Carbaugh has expressed a need for escorts on the buses.

Please be sure to view the convention section of the Harrisburg chapter web site at <http://harrisburgago.com/RegionalConvention2011.htm> for more information about the convention and to register online. The Q & A is there as well as all of the past Convention Corner articles, a paper registration form, "Convention at a Glance" and workshop schedule.

Special thanks to the Steering Committee for their leadership and months of hard work. From the Harrisburg Chapter, the following members have been chairing the committees. Please remember to thank them when you see them at the convention for their hard work and dedication.

Convention Coordinator – Shirley King
Convention Secretary – Karen Appel
Convention Registrar – Kathy Gates
Finance Chair/Treasurer – Arnold Sten
Program Chair/Concerts Chair – Thomas Clark-Jones
Program/Workshops – Shelly Moorman-Stahlman
Finance/Grants & Gifts Chair – David Hoffman
Hospitality Co-Chairs – Doris Savage & Tim Koch
Hospitality/Volunteers – Ruth Brommer & Judy Schrack
Logistics Chair – Steve Middernacht
Transportation Chair – Bob Carbaugh
Program Book Chair – Rick Zentmeyer
Publicity Chair – Kathy Gates
Media Publicity Chair – Mary Jane Nelson
Competition Chair – Ellen Hunt
Exhibits Chair – Steve Middernacht
Chapter Liaison – Ralph Kneeream
Web Master – Shawn Gingrich

We know you will enjoy attending the Region III convention this year. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Gates, Registrar, at 717-739-9326.

The Publicity Committee