Indiana Organists United

Indiana University School of Music Alumni Association • Vol. 2/Spring 2007

Indiana Organists United reunited in Bloomington

The Indiana Organists United, a part of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Alumni Association, sponsored an alumni reunion on IU's Bloomington campus on June 23–24, 2006. **David K. Lamb**, president of IOU, organized the events. The purposes of the reunion were to encourage the organists who have studied at IU to help them retain connections to campus, to assist them in reconnecting with colleagues, and to show appreciation for those who have excelled in organ performance and church music. Those attending had the opportunity to experience an enlightening weekend filled with amazing organ concerts, reminiscing and visiting, exploring and learning, and delicious food.

The reunion began on June 23 with an Oswald G. Ragatz Legacy Concert featuring four organists who had been Ragatz's students at IU. **Janet Hamilton**, MM'79, DM'91; **David K. Lamb**, BM/BME'83, MS'85, SME'94, DM'00; **Gregory Largent**, MM'81; and **David Schrader**, MM'76, MD'87, played with skill and inspiration. After gathering events, including dinner and informal reminiscing at the Colorado Steakhouse, alumni attended a concert by Herndon Spillman, professor of music at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, featuring the newly refurbished Schantz organ of 88 ranks in the IU Auditorium. He displayed many of the tonal resources of this organ with his selections.

During the organ alumni reunion, a gala banquet and reception was held at the DeVault Alumni Center, home of the Indiana University Alumni Association, on East 17th Street.

June 24 began with a continental breakfast, followed by a presentation by Daniel Melamed, associate professor of music and director of graduate studies at the Jacobs School of Music, on "Staffing the St. Matthew Passion — Then and Now." Joel Silver, curator of books at IU's Lilly Library, led a tour with a presentation on early hymnals. Larry Smith, professor of organ and chair of the organ department, presented the "system" of early fingering for J.S. Bach's *Orgelbuchlein*.

After a generous box lunch, participants attended an interactive workshop led by Brent Gault, assistant professor of music, on "The Total Package: Structuring Music Learning for the Children's Choir." Philip Ponella, director of the IU Music Library, led a tour.

William F. Entriken, BM'71, organist and director of music at First Presbyterian Church in New York City, gave an outstanding concert on the Reuter organ at First Christian Church of Bloomington. The organ was designed by Oswald Ragatz, with the final additions of the positive division and the third manual dedicated to the memory of his wife, **Mary Ragatz**, BM'43, MM'64, who was the first organ graduate of the IU School of Music.

(*continued on page 2*)

IU organists to perform at OHS convention

Twelve IU organists (alumni, faculty, students) will present concerts or give lectures at the 52nd annual National Convention of the Organ Historical Society, which will be hosted in Indianapolis and central Indiana in July 2007. Our Indiana Organists United OHS participants are **Carla Edwards**, DM'97; John Gouwens; Marilyn Keiser; **Yun Kyong Kim**, MM'96, DM'05; **David Lamb**, BM/BME'83, MS'85, SME'94, DM'00; **Charles Manning**, BM'75, MM'83; **Daniel McKinley**, BM'75, MM'78; **Rosalind Mohnsen**, MM'68; **Thomas Nichols**, BME'92; Chris Schroeder; **Tom Wood**, BM'66, MM'68; and Christopher Young.

Membership *Matters.* *This publication is paid for in part by dues-paying members of the Indiana University Alumni Association.*

Reunion

(*continued from page 1*)

A reception with a beautiful display of garden vegetables, fresh fruit, imported cheese, and punch preceded the gala banquet. The reception included time to visit and reminisce with the participants. **Joanne Schulte**, BM'62, MM'64, of Florida was the recipient of the door prize for the person who had traveled the farthest to attend. She received an original printing of a Langlais organ score, signed by Langlais, from the personal library of Oswald Ragatz. **James Fitzpatrick**, BM'56, MM'58, was the recipient of the door prize for the attending alumnus with the earliest degree granted. He received an autographed copy of *Murder Twice Two*, the second murder mystery written by Oswald Ragatz.

Professor Emeritus Ragatz was honored for his meritorious career at IU. In his remarks, he mentioned that the ties to his former students have meant a lot to him through the years. **Herndon Spillman**, MM'68, DM'77, and **William Entriken**, BM'71, were each awarded the first Oswald G. Ragatz Distinguished Alumni Award. Each gave brief remarks, including anecdotes of experiences in the IU organ department. One memorable statement was a thought that Entriken shared. He had finished his degree at IU and he moved on to graduate study with Robert Baker at Union Seminary in New York. When he arrived in New York, he went to his first lesson with Baker. After he finished playing the pieces that were assigned for that lesson, Baker suggested, "There is nothing left for me to teach you. Doctor Ragatz has already taught you everything." What a wonderfully amazing statement from one of the preeminent organ pedagogues of the 20th century.

The reunion concluded with an organ concert at Bloomington's St. Thomas Lutheran Church by **Yoon-Mi Lim**, the 2004 National Winner of the AGO Young Artist Competition. Lim, a doctoral student studying with IU Associate Professor Christopher Young, gave a thrilling, virtuosic performance.

The reunion was a wonderful weekend with opportunities for reminiscing and visiting, for learning, and for listening to beautiful organ music played by talented performers who studied at IU.

— Judith E. Miller, BA'65, MAT'68

Save the date!

Indiana Organists United Reunion & Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner: July 3–4, 2008

From left are Professor Marilyn Keiser; William Entriken, BM'71; Professor Emeritus Oswald Ragatz; Hendron Spillman, MM'68, DM'77; and Professor Larry Smith. Entriken and Spillman received the first Oswald G. Ragatz Distinguished Alumni Award.

Indiana Organists United Distinguished Alumni Award

Nomination form

A statement of nomination, including a résumé or biographical data, must accompany this form. Additional letters of support are welcome. Additional forms may be obtained from the IU Alumni Association office. **Please submit nominations by Dec. 31, 2007.**

Nominee: _____

Year(s) and degree(s): _____

Business title: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Return form to IU Alumni Association, Indiana Organists United Alumni Association, 1000 E. 17th St., Bloomington, IN 47408-1521. Telephone: (800) 824-3044 or (812) 855-4822 • Fax: (812) 855-8266

Alumni Notebook

Before 1970

Lucy-Ann McCluer, MM'54, writes, "I taught organ at Erskine College for 20 years and was organist at several churches in the region. I went into administrative work at Erskine and retired as registrar emerita after 40 years at Erskine College. I am active in the Greenwood chapter of the American Guild of Organists." McCluer lives and worked in Due West, S.C.

Bonnie L. Swearer Stephan, BM'55, is a retired professor of music at Huntington (Ind.) College, where she taught voice and organ and was the opera director. She is now the organist at First Presbyterian Church in Huntington.

James D. Fitzpatrick, BM'56, MM'58, is a retired music educator in Bloomington, Ind.

Mary R. Hartman Yates, BM'59, is an organist at First Christian Church in Bedford, Ind., and has been a church organist for 50 years. She taught college for 10 years and is retired from the legal department of AT&T. She and her husband, Willard F., MA'60, PhD'67, live in Heltonville. They are the parents of two IU alumni.

Thomas F. Wood, BM'66, MM'68, is the interim curator of organs and an adjunct lecturer in music at the Jacobs School of Music at IU Bloomington. He writes, "This position also involves teaching the course in organ construction, history, and design — a course I had set up some 30 years ago when I was with the university. It is interesting to be back doing the same things as I was 35 years ago. The major difference is having access to a shop, and [graduate assistants] serve as able assistants in routine maintenance work." He lives in Unionville, Ind.

1970s

William F. Entriken, BM'71, has been the organist and director of music at First Presbyterian Church in New York City since 1988. Entriken writes, "At this time, the church is in the process of installing a new four-manual console, built by Gluck New York. New registers will be added and tonal modifications [will be] made to the 81-rank Austin/Gluck organ at the time of installation. Last November, a box containing important letters from [the founders of First Presbyterian Church's Guilmant Organ School] Alexandre Guilmant, William C. Carl, and their colleagues about the formation of the school was discovered in a file cabinet bought in a yard sale in Maine and generously returned to First Presbyterian Church." Entriken is also an assistant professor of organ at New York University. Before coming to First Presbyterian, he was the organist and director of music at St. Luke in the Fields in New York City's Greenwich Village for 12 years.

Faythe R. Freese, MM'78, DM'91, is an associate professor of organ at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. She is the recipient of a $10,000 donation from a private donor to commission Naji Hakim, a world-renowned concert organist, improviser, and leading composer for the pipe organ, to compose a 10-minute organ composition. The piece is scheduled for premiere at the University of Alabama Church Music Conference on Jan. 26, 2008. Freese also received an $11,760 award from Keith McDowell, vice president of research at UA, to record the Hakim piece on the organ at La Sainte Trinité in Paris, June 2–6, 2008. The composition will be the centerpiece of a recording also featuring works by Olivier Messiaen, Jean Langlais, and Alexandre Guilmant. The CD will be released on the JAV label. Freese is also busy organizing the University of Alabama French Organ Study Tour for this summer. Plans include visiting historical organs at the cities of Poitiers, Souvigny, and Paris.

1980s

David K. Lamb, BM/BME'83, MS'85, SME'94, DM'00, appears on two new CD releases. *Moments of Majesty — Sounds of Celebration* was recorded on the 70-rank Goulding and Wood organ in the St. Meinrad Archabbey Church in St. Meinard, Ind. *Soaring Sounds of Majestic Antiquity* was recorded at the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin, Ind., on a 1912 J.W. Steer organ that was renovated and refurbished in 1988 by Goulding and Wood. Lamb's CDs are available at www.cdbaby.com; contact him at lambd61@sbcglobal.net for more information. Lamb continues as organist and director of music for First United Methodist Church in Columbus, Ind. 2006 concerts include appearances in Paris, Pittsburgh, and New York City. In July, he will perform for the national convention of the Organ Historical Society in Indianapolis.

1990s

Thomas A. Nichols, BME'92, has served as organist and director of music and liturgy at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Indianapolis for 11 years. He is dean of the Indianapolis chapter of the American Guild of Organists and a member of the Indiana Organists United board of directors. Nichols is also director of the Indianapolis chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, which will be hosting the association's national convention in July. Also in July, Nichols will perform for the National Convention of the Organ Historical Society in Indianapolis.

Yun K. Kim, MM'96, DM'05, is the organist at Christ Episcopal Church in Dayton, Ohio. She teaches organ in the Dayton area. In July, Kim will perform at the national convention of the Organ Historical Society in Indianapolis. She lives in Monroe.

Lisa M. Scrivani-Tidd, DM'96, is the author and editor of *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Rock History: The Early Years, 1951–1959*, published by Greenwood Publishing Group. Her writing comprises the first volume of the six-volume reference series on the history of rock music in American culture. The encyclopedia can be found at IU's Herman B Wells Library. She is also an organist at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y. Scrivani-Tidd lives in Alexandria Bay.

2000s

In July, **Patrick E. Pope**, MM'04, started a new post as assistant organist and choirmaster at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Charlotte, N.C. He continues as accompanist for the choir school at St. Peter's, which comprises five children's choirs with more than 100 children ages 6 through 18. He has played recent recitals on the restored 1801 Tannenberg organ in Winston-Salem, N.C., and at Chapel of the Cross in Chapel Hill, N.C. Recital engagements in 2007 include Atlanta and Charlotte. This July, Pope plans to present a workshop, focusing on the use of Mendelssohn's choral music within the framework of the Revised Common Lectionary, for the national conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in Houston.

Membership *Matters*.
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