

CHIFF CHAT

The Newsletter of the Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
October 2005

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CHAPLAIN

Rev. William Wallis

Paul Jacobs

Saturday, October 15, 2005 – 10 – 12 Noon
Paul Jacobs Masterclass
Old First Church, Court Square, Springfield

Sunday, October 16, 2005 – 3:30 PM

Paul Jacobs Concert
Old First Church, Court Square, Springfield
Music at First

Paul Jacobs is a recitalist possessing a huge repertoire. Paul Jacobs has memorized the complete organ works of Brahms, Franck, and Durufle, much of Messiaen, most of Bach, and a vast range of other organ literature. Mr. Jacobs has been a featured artist on Public Radio International's "Pipedreams," Bavarian Radio, Brazilian Arts Television, ABC television's World News Tonight, NPR's Morning Edition, and Minnesota Public Radio. Paul Jacobs, chairman of the organ department at New York's prestigious Juilliard School at Lincoln Center, was appointed to the Juilliard faculty in 2003 at the age of 26 making him one of the youngest faculty appointments in the school's history. (Continued on page 2)

In This Issue

Calendar	p. 9/10	Nation	p. 3
Events	p. 6/7	New Members	p. 3
In Memory	p. 8	Organs	p. 3
Job Postings	p. 8	Paul Jacobs	p. 1/2
Milestones	p. 3	World	p. 3

Paul Jacobs

(Continued from page 1)

Paul Jacobs began studying the piano at the age of six and the organ at age 13. By the age of 15 he was appointed head organist of a parish of 3,500 families in his hometown of Washington, Pennsylvania, continuing his organ studies with George Rau and his piano studies with Susan Woodard. He received a full scholarship to study at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and graduated as a double major, studying organ with John Weaver and harpsichord with Lionel Party. He subsequently received the Master of Music degree and Artist Diploma from Yale, studying organ with Thomas Murray. In 2005 he was one of those honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Yale School of Music. See insert for more information.

Masterclass Participants

Please contact Charles Page if you are interested in performing at the Paul Jacobs masterclass. Please let him know the work you would like to play. Charles Page can be reached at

(860) 749-7829 or
pagenor@aol.com.



Countdown to Chicago

We hope you can join us in magnificent Chicago! In addition to world-class ensembles, performers, dining and shopping, you will have the chance to experience one of the most wonderful fireworks displays anywhere! It is also a chance to celebrate the centenary of the Chicago Chapter of the AGO. We invite you to visit our Web site; you can access it from the AGO National Headquarters home page, <www.agohq.org>. Visit it early and often for exciting updates and venue information! See you in the Windy City!

Dr. Dennis E. Northway Ch.M.
Promotions Chair
ChicAGO 2006 Convention

Milestones

Peter Beardsley's anthem "Let Your Trumpets Sound Salvation" was part of a composers' workshop at the annual conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians. The 1988 anthem is based on, and uses, a chant called the "Exsultet", which is in the Episcopal book for use at the Easter vigil. It also incorporates "Noel Nouvelet", which occurs in the Episcopal Hymnal as an Easter carol, hence the connection.

It's written for brass quintet (Trumpets 1 & 2, Horn, Trombone, Tuba) accompaniment. An organ transcription, and an arrangement for brass quartet are also available.

The anthem is available to AGO members for the cost of copying, about 30¢ a copy, plus postage. See start of anthem on page 4. Contact Peter Beardsley at 413-746-9640 for more information.

Organs

Allan Taylor will be working on a new organ installation in the town of Granville fairly soon.

Nation

Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts continue to be needed. The AGO is setting up ways to

contribute. See letter on page 5 for more information.

World

Taize ecumenical community founder Brother Roger was stabbed to death at prayer service in August. News media reported that some 2,500 people – most of them teens who had gathered at Taize for youth prayer meeting – were worshipping in the church when a 36-year-old woman surged toward 90-year-old Brother Roger. The stabbing took place at vespers in the Church of Reconciliation while a choir of monks was intoning the first notes of evensong amid a sea of worshippers.

The Taize community, which the late Pope John Paul II visited in 1986, each year draws some 100,000 people, about 17 to 30 years old.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

Regular

The Rev. Dr. David Hunter, Pastor AND Organist, Victory Church, corner of Rifle & Allen Streets; Springfield

Michael Rheault, Organist, 1st Park Memorial Baptist, Springfield

Chiff Chat – October 2005 – p. 3

Regular

David Johnston, Longmeadow

Lenore Paul, Ludlow

Dual

Lynn Pitney Goss, Somers, CT

Student

Emma F. Reilly, Wesleyan POE, E. Longmeadow

Victoria Fontaine, Blandford

Maria Sheehan, Wesleyan POE, Wilbraham

Nicholas F. Russotto, Student of Charles Page, Somers, CT

Jeffrey Kempksie, Sunderland

Friend

Elizabeth Brown, Hadley

Stephen J. Perlaky, Longmeadow

Let Your Trumpets Shout Salvation

For the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield, Massachusetts
and the Clarion Brass Quintet

Words from the Exsultet: BCP 1979

Peter B. Beardsley, FAGO 1988/1996

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system features a Clarion Brass Quintet (Trumpets, Trombones, and Euphonium/Tuba) with a tempo of 102 and dynamics of *p* and *mp*. The second system is for the Piano, with dynamics ranging from *p* to *f*. The third system is for the choir, with parts for Soprano I & II, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, and a Piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia," with a *cresc. ...* marking. A rehearsal mark 'A' is placed at the beginning of the choir and piano parts in the third system.

Letter to local AGO Leadership regarding Hurricane Katrina

September 2, 2005

The AGO National Council and Headquarters staffs extend our deepest sympathies to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. In an effort to identify ways that we can help the dozens of AGO members and thousands of others who have been stricken by the devastating storm, Regional Councilors Sarah Hawbecker (Region IV) and Frances Nobert (Region IX) have volunteered to serve on a national AGO task force to consider how the AGO can respond to this crisis most effectively. If you wish to assist them, please contact Executive Director James Thomashower jet@agohq.org tel. 212-870-2311 ext. 4300.

The National Council and staff have already discussed many potential ways to address the needs of those whose lives have been most profoundly disrupted. We are especially concerned about the 56 members of the New Orleans Chapter and the 17 members of the South Mississippi Chapter, since both chapters were in the direct path of the hurricane. We would welcome any news about the well being of the members of those chapters.

Praying for those who have been dislocated or harmed by the storm and sending a monetary donation to a respected charitable organization such as the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, or a denominational organization with a disaster relief program are the two actions that Council and staff recommend for those who wish to take part immediately in the relief effort. A detailed list of organizations accepting monetary donations can be found at this link:

<http://www.microsoft.com/mscorp/citizenship/giving/agencies.asp>

We are also studying the possibility of accepting donations at AGO Headquarters on behalf of the New Orleans and South Mississippi Chapters, and having Headquarters contribute directly to one of the agencies referenced in the list above. In addition, the Membership Committee is reviewing a plan to waive the national portion of dues for the 2005-2006 fiscal year for members who were directly affected by the storm. Another suggestion we are evaluating is for the AGO to serve as a clearinghouse for donations of sheet music, which, at some point in the future, can be distributed, to those individuals and institutions whose music libraries were destroyed by the hurricane.

In the weeks ahead, the AGO will establish a formal response plan that will likely have many components. We will keep you apprised of our progress, and we will ask for your help in communicating the plan to your constituents, just as we ask now for your assistance in sharing this letter with the members of your chapter and district leadership.

Sincerely,

Fred Swann
President

James Thomashower
Executive Director

Events

EsteyFest

The largest gathering of antique reed organ lovers ever is going to occur in Brattleboro VT this October 13 – 16, 2005. Deemed **EsteyFest**, the conference will attract hundreds of antique organ enthusiasts from around the world who are making a pilgrimage here for the International Reed Organ Society's largest gathering in history.

Why Brattleboro, Vermont (population 13,500)?

For antique organ lovers, the hometown of the Estey Organ Company is a holy land. From the 1860s through 1960, the Estey Organ Company was far and away the largest, longest lived, and best known maker of organs in the world. These enthusiasts – who are coming from across the country, England, Germany, and the Netherlands (thus far) – wish to explore the place where more than 500,000 Estey reed organs were built.

The five-day conference features a visit to the collection of antique organs at the site of the original factory, now the Estey Organ Museum; a "pipe crawl" to hear a half dozen Estey organs still being used in Brattleboro; a banquet deemed *EsteyFest*; a demonstration of how to play a reed organ; a human tableau recreating a Victorian parlor scene depicted in a historical Estey organ advertisement; concerts; special hours at the Brattleboro Historical Society; and a final, truly unique Tribute to the Esteys.

On Sunday, at least a dozen Estey organs will be transported to Brattleboro's Prospect Hill Cemetery to the gravesite of the Estey family.

There, a program of Victorian hymns and other tunes will be played in the Esteys honor. A horse and carriage will be on hand, and many participants will be dressed to the hilt in Victorian garb for the occasion.

This highly unusual concert is set for Sunday, October 16, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at the Estey family gravesite at Prospect Hill Cemetery. - Tanya Tabachnikoff, **EsteyFest** Publicist



Choral Conducting Masterclass

Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9-1. There is no charge. This will be held in Keene.

Professor Sun Min Lee will help us all remember the basics of singing and why we enjoy it so much. Sun Min Lee is a rising star from America's primary choral school, Westminster Choir College. - Jay Chandler, Dean of the Monadnock Chapter of the AGO

Music in Worship: A Prophetic Voice - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

You are encouraged to register for "Music in Worship: A Prophetic Voice - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow", a symposium to be held at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, October 9-11. This exciting event for seminary musicians and academic deans, denominational music leaders, church musicians and clergy, is being presented by the Guild's Committee on Seminary and Denominational Relations in Cooperation with the Association of Theological Schools, the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship and Perkins School of Theology.

The symposium will deal with music in worship, the role of music in the seminary: where are we? and best practices. We will also examine the historical, current and future places of the organ and choral music in worship.

The presenters will be Dr. Daniel Aleshire, Association of Theological Schools; Dr. Anton Armstrong, St. Olaf College; Dr. Eileen Guenther, Wesley Theological Seminary; Dr. John Holbert, Dr. William Lawrence and Dr. Alyce McKenzie, Perkins School of Theology; Rev. Gregory Norton, National Chaplain, American Guild of Organists; Frederick Swann, President, American Guild of Organists; and Dr. John Witvliet, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.

The registration fee is \$115; \$85 for students and additional registrants from the same institution (early registration by September 7 is \$95 and \$75 respectively). Discounted hotel rates (\$67 per night) are available at the newly remodeled Holiday Inn Dallas Central (214)373-6000 until September 18. For further information, check your July and August TAO magazines or email info@agohq.org. We hope to see you in Dallas.

George E. Tutwiler, Director
Committee on Seminary and Denominational Relations

In Memory

Claire C. Weir, 88, of the Fairview section of Chicopee was Called Safely Home on Saturday, September 3, 2005. She was the organist and choir director for 18 years at Saint Anne Church in Fairview and was instrumental in the rebuilding of their pipe organ. She later was the organist and choir director for 18 years at Saint George Church in Chicopee Falls. She was also employed at several of the Catholic Churches in the area, including the former Saint Aloysius Church in the Indian Orchard section of Springfield. She was a well-known organist and taught organ at Cathedral High School. She also taught at her home as well as Gerry's Music Shop in Holyoke that later moved to South Hadley and taught for many years at Bill Harry's Music Studio in Holyoke. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists and a former member of the Springfield Diocesan Choir. Memorial donations may be made in her memory to Mt. Saint Vincent Nursing Home Activity Fund, 35 Holy Family Road, Holyoke, MA 01040, the Alzheimer's Association, 153 Magazine Street, Springfield, MA 01109 or to the WestMass Elder Care, 4 Valley Mill Road, Holyoke, MA 01040. – also in *The Republican* 9/5/2005.

Job postings

Old First Church in Springfield, MA

Interim Organist/Choir Director

10 hours per week

Three-manual Aeolian Skinner Organ, Opus 1326, which was installed in 1958 consisting of 56 Ranks and 3,241 pipes. In 1998 Foley-Baker, Inc., completely re-leathered the organ, provided a new solid-state combination action, and designed a new case.

1 adult choir (20 singers including several professionals).

Organist and choir director can be two positions, if that's what works best.

The salary is negotiable and based on education, experience, and qualifications.

Contact: Barbara Huber

barbarahuber@yahoo.com

or call 413-737-1411.

First Parish of Bolton, MA; PO Box 250;
Bolton, MA 01740

Organist/Choir Director
8-10 hours per week
Estey Pipe Organ
(rebuild/replacement under consideration)

1 Adult choir

Salary: \$13,000

Contact: Rev. Richard F. Jones

email: admin@firstparishofbolton.org

To list a position in Chiff Chat, please contact our professional concerns and placement coordinator, Becky Isaacson, either by phone at (413) 734-1623 or e-mail her: beckyisaacson@aol.com

CALENDAR

(Continued from back)

December 11

2:30 PM

Holyoke High School
Madrigal Singers
United Congregational
Church, Holyoke

3:30 PM

Music at First
Christmas Candlelight
Concert
The Old First Church Choir and
Soloists
Westfield State College Wind
Symphony
Old First Church,
Springfield

December 18

10:30 AM

Music and Scripture
Clarion brass
United Congregational
Church, Holyoke

February 5, 2006

3:00 PM

Members Recital
Second
Congregational
Church, Greenfield

February 19, 2006

3:30 PM

Music at First
Young Artists' Showcase
Fourteen year-old
Longmeadow prodigy
Vincent Yu, piano
Old First Church,
Springfield

March 11, 2006

7:00 PM

Silent Film "Metropolis",
Organist Peter Krasinski
United Congregational,
Holyoke

March 19, 2006

3:30 PM

Music at First
The Chatham Chorale
Chamber Singers
American music from folk song
to new classical works and
popular music
Margaret Bossi, director
Old First Church,
Springfield

April 23, 2006

2:30 PM

Vocal Music
Eduardo Ortiz & Dory Blakney
United Congregational
Church, Holyoke

April 30, 2006

3:30 PM

Music at First
Lanfranco Marcelletti
and Company
UMass Chamber Orchestra,
piano solo, four hands, piano
trio
Lanfranco Marcelletti, piano
Estela Olevsky, piano
William Hite, tenor
Salvatore Macchia, double
bass
Old First Church,
Springfield

May 6, 2006

1:00 PM

Organ Academy
Recital
First Congregational,
Hadley

June 6, 2006

6:30 PM

Visit Odell Organ
First Congregational,
Sunderland

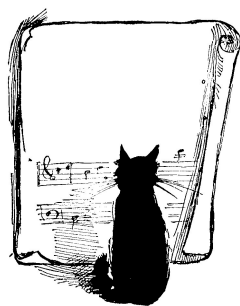
June 6, 2006

7:00 PM

Annual Banquet
Goten of Japan,
Sunderland

Please contribute to Chiff Chat

Chiff Chat is published
September through
June. Closing dates
are the 15th of the
preceding month for
Articles, Calendar and
News items. Please
send News for
"Milestones", Articles
and suggestions.
Please send material
electronically, if
possible, to
chiffchat@aol.com.
Or call 413-584-5007,
or send to E. Dawson;
60 East St. #2; Hadley,
MA 01035 The
chapter's website is:
www.springfieldago.org.



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Organists
Springfield, MA Chapter**
E. Dawson – Newsletter Editor
60 East St. #2
Hadley, MA 01035

**ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED**

CALENDAR

October 15
10:00 AM
Paul Jacobs
Masterclass
Old First Church,
Springfield

October 16
3:30 PM
Music at First
Paul Jacobs Recital
Old First Church,
Springfield



Springfield
AGO Chapter events are
enclosed within a box.

November 6
3:30 PM
Music at First
Manhattan Music
Ensemble
violin, cello, piano
Old First Church,
Springfield

7:30 PM
Pipe Organ Dedication
Concert,
Organist Edward E. Clark
Second Congregational,
Westfield

November 12
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Mini Convention
Featuring
Repertoire & Recital: Peter
Stolzfus Berton
Fisk Lausanne Show: Greg
Bover
All Saints, South Hadley

November 13
2:30 PM
Organ recital
Scott Lamlein
United Congregational
Church, Holyoke

November 20
10:00 AM
Jazz Service
Christ Church Cathedral,
Springfield
3:30 PM
Liturgical Jazz Concert
Deanna Witkowski Quartet
Christ Church Cathedral,
Springfield

December 10th
7:30 PM
Candlelight Lessons and
Carols - Cathedral of
Saint Michael The
Archangel, Springfield