

October 2006

Chiff Chat

Springfield, MA Chapter
American Guild of Organists



A Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

It is not too late to register for the Columbus Day organ crawl to New Haven! Information is available on the Worcester Chapter web site www.worcesterago.org, in this issue, or by calling Ron Trunzo (413-545-6994/w).

Our principal celebration for the **60th Anniversary** is an **Interfaith Festival Service** at Trinity Methodist/Springfield on Sunday, November 12, 2006 at 3pm. Peter Gomes, Chaplain of Harvard University, will lead the service, with a festival choir and brass directed by Allan Taylor and Becky Isaacson as organist.

On behalf of the Board, I encourage you to participate in the choir either individually or with your entire church choir. This is a wonderful way to help celebrate our anniversary. The rehearsals begin on Thursday, October 26, 2006 at both First Church/Westfield and Trinity Methodist/Springfield, and then the massed choir will meet on Thursday, November 9, 2006 and Saturday, November 11, 2006 for the final rehearsals. Please contact Becky (413-734-1623) if you desire to sing or bring your choir. Please plan on attending the service even if you are not singing. This is our anniversary!

I also extend a personal invitation to all former officers of the Chapter (Dean, Sub Dean, Treasurer, and Secretary) to march in the opening procession. I have also invited neighboring Deans and regional and national

officers. Academic Regalia will be the dress for those in the procession. Please let me know if you are able to join us or have questions about Regalia.

I attended a very special celebration this past week. St Patrick's Parish/South Hadley honored their music director and organists, Gertrude Kennedy, for her fifty years of service. A Mass celebrated by Bishop Maguire and five priests who she served under, followed by a catered dinner for over 250 parishioners and other friends, family and guests, acknowledged this remarkable milestone. Although Gert has never been a member of the Guild, Fr. Shea, current Pastor of St Patrick's, invited me to speak of the important work we do as music ministers, and present a certificate of appreciation to her on behalf of the Chapter. It was a wonderful evening and a humbling experience to see the impact that Gert's many, many years of music making has made on several generations of parishioners.

May all of us receive such appreciation from our clergy and church members!

Enjoy these beautiful days of autumn in New England!

E Lary Grossman

AGO Springfield 60th Anniversary!

Interfaith Festival Service

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Springfield Chapter, AGO

Trinity United Methodist Church
361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA
Sunday, November 12, 2006, 3:00 PM (2:00pm Warm up)

Call for all interested Singers!

Members of the Springfield Chapter, AGO are invited to participate in this combined choral celebration! Individuals interested in singing should contact Becky Isaacson at Trinity Church 413-734-1623 to arrange for music. Choirs interested in singing should contact Becky with the expected number that will be singing. Rehearsals times are listed below.

REHEARSALS

Thursday, November 9, 2006 7 – 9 PM, Trinity Church
Saturday, November 11, 2006 10 – Noon, Trinity Church (mandatory rehearsal)
Additional rehearsals at First Church, Westfield, and Trinity, Springfield will be held on the two preceding Thursdays from 8 – 9 PM. Individuals who can only attend the required rehearsal on Saturday, Nov. 11 are expected to prepare the music in advance.

DETAILS

DIRECTOR	Allan Taylor
ORGANIST	Becky Isaacson
BRASS QUARTET	The New England Brass
GUEST PREACHER	Peter Gomes, Chaplain, Harvard University
CORE CHOIRS	Trinity United Methodist Church, Springfield First Congregational Church, Westfield

MUSIC

Hassler	Kyrie Eleison [Shawnee]
Brahms	How Lovely is Thy Dwelling-place [Schirmer]
Dawson	Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit
Mathias	O Be Joyful in the Lord (Jubilate Deo) [Oxford A 340]

HYMNS:

Processional	Last Uns Erfreuen [Ferguson arrangement]
Middle Hymns	Concertato style Engelberg, When In Our Music God is Glorified -- [Ferguson Arr.] Earth and All Stars, Arr. Johnson/Pelz [Augsburg 11-1973]
Recessional	Ein Fest Burg [Ferguson arrangement]

Fall Organ Crawl to New Haven!

Monday, October 9, 2006

A Joint Program of the Worcester, Hartford, and Springfield Chapters

If you've never participated in an organ crawl or are a seasoned traveler, this is one to attend. See the great organs of Yale and New Haven. All levels of players and fans are welcomed. There will be a brief talk and demonstration at each instrument. We'll also have time at each stop for crawlers to play a little something on the organ, if interested. Good lunch, snacks, and fellowship guaranteed!

Five excellent instruments will be heard and examined at a generous pace, combined with a buffet lunch at a fine Irish pub, which happens to have an authentic organ facade behind one of its bars! One of the highlights of the day will be an opportunity to walk through the easily accessible organ chamber at Yale University's Woolsey Hall, chaperoned by a curator from the Thompson-Allen Organ Company. Another will be the magnificent new Lively-Fulcher at Christ Church. A restored Hook in a new home, and a recently renewed Beckerath (both in superb acoustics), will represent versatile mechanical action instruments, and the magical effects of Trinity Church on the Green round out the crawl...truly an excursion with something for everyone.

Registration

Visit the Worcester chapter web page to print the registration form and send it in today:

<http://organweb.com/worcester/onlineorder/crawl.html>

Fees

Bus: \$35; Lunch: \$10; Program Book: \$5; Refreshments: \$5 - Total Package: \$55

Transportation

Drive yourself or car-pool and meet the group in New Haven at Woolsey Hall at 10am
(\$20 registration for lunch, program book and refreshments)

OR Meet the bus from Worcester at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford at 9am sharp
(\$55 "total package" registration and "leave the driving to us")

You may leave your car at the church and ride the bus to New Haven.

Directions to Asylum Hill (<http://www.ahcc.org/DIRECTIONS.htm>)

91S to Hartford, I-84 West, From Interstate I-84 West take Exit 48 (Asylum Street Exit), Turn West onto Asylum Street - bearing right at Y onto Asylum Avenue - continue 4 blocks. Asylum Hill Congregational Church is the large brownstone church on the right at 814 Asylum Ave. Parking lot on the right side of the church.

Organ Crawl Itinerary

Bus Stops at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford: 9am

Woolsey Hall: 10am

Lunch: 12 NOON

Trinity Church on the Green: 1pm

Dwight Chapel: 2pm

Christ Church: 3pm

St. Francis Church: 4:15pm

Bus departs New Haven from St. Francis Church: 5:15pm

Bus Stops at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford: 6:15pm

Questions?

Ron Trunzo (Event Chair, Springfield Chapter)

413-545-6994, rtrunzo@gw.housing.umass.edu or

Frank Corbin (Co-Dean, Worcester Chapter), 508-767-7508, frank.corbin@verizon.net

News & Announcements

Schola Nova is delighted to announce the appointment of Terry Larsen as Director and Conductor of the repertory choral ensemble. Mr. Larsen, a former member of the world-renowned a cappella group **Chanticleer**, brings over twenty-five years of choral singing, teaching, and conducting to the group. Terry Larsen, (MMus, UMASS/Amherst; BMus Ed, Univ. of Montana), has a long career of professional music making including singing with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Chanticleer, San Francisco Chamber Singers, the San Francisco Choral Artists, and Northampton's Singers Project. His conducting work includes directorships of the Pioneer Valley Symphony Chorus, Manchester (CT) Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and the Napa Valley Symphony Chorus. He has also been active in drama and musical theatre productions. **Schola Nova**, founded in 1982, is a choral group dedicated to the performance of sacred music from the Medieval period to the contemporary. Under its founder and director-emeritus, Michael Dulac, the group has developed an extensive repertoire and mastery of the performance practices necessary for this challenging literature.

50 Years of Service

Gertrude Kennedy has been the organist and choir director at St Patrick's Parish (South Hadley) for 50 years. During those years, Gertrude has worked with the change of the liturgy from Latin to English. She welcomed a whole new repertoire of music while maintaining a love of the traditional music of the church. She worked with couples wishing to celebrate their love in the Sacrament of Marriage as well as families remembering their loved ones in a funeral Mass. Each celebration was marked with Gertrude's special gift of singing and musical accompaniment. Gertrude sought to serve the needs of the parish and was always available for parish celebrations and special events. The priests of St Patrick's found Gertrude helpful and co-operative in responding to the needs of the Parish.

In Memoriam

Helen Downing Ezold 1916 – 2006, age 90, well known piano and organ teacher, pianist, and church organist, died on Saturday, September 9, 2006 at Mount Saint Vincent Home, Holyoke, where she resided for several years. Before that she taught and lived on Sycamore Street, Holyoke with her husband,

Bob Ezold for 55 years. They were married at Sacred Heart Church, Holyoke on May 16, 1941 by the late Father William Harty. Born in Holyoke, she was the daughter of the late James J. Downing and Evelyn Rhodes Downing. Helen graduated from Morgan Junior High School, and Holyoke High School where she was the Vice-president of the Class of 1933. She graduated from The University of Massachusetts (then Mass-State College) in 1937 having majored in English and minored in Music. She taught piano and organ to hundreds of students over the 65 years of her teaching career. Many of her students will be performing at a special concert in her memory during the Wake at Holy Cross Church preceding the funeral Mass. Helen served as Organist and Choir Director for twenty years at Sacred Heart Church, Holyoke doing major Latin Masses on a weekly basis with "Vespers in Bb" by Stearns on Christmas Eve and Easter Eve. Helen also served as funeral organist at Holy Cross Church, Holyoke and wedding organist in the Newman Center at UMass for Father Joe Quigley. For most of their lives, she and her husband Bob with their dance band provided music for countless weddings, testimonials, parties of all kinds, and dances held all over the area in places like Red Shea's, Toto's, The Beachwood (owned by her brother Jimmy Downing), The Roger Smith Hotel, The Holyoke Canoe Club, Couture's Garden and Kamp Jahn (both at Hampton Ponds) and The Springdale Turn Hall. The family band, The Jimmy Downing Orchestra, played nightly at the Beachwood for many years. Helen also fondly remembered many gigs at the old Valley Arena in South Holyoke. Helen and her father James J. Downing both served as President and Vice-President of the Holyoke Musicians Union, Local 144. Helen was the manager of the old Holyoke City Band for several years. She taught many well known local musicians their first lessons at the piano and organ and they are performing regularly all over the area.

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2006

Sunday, October 1, 2006 – 12:15pm Scott Lamlein, Organist. Half-hour recital on the IV/73 Skinner Organ. Pipes Alive! Organ Series, Wesley United Methodist Church, 114 Main Street, Worcester. Free, donations accepted.

Sunday, October 1, 2006 – 3:00pm, Young organ virtuoso Felix Hell, Brattleboro's First Baptist Church. The 20-year-old artist has been likened to the famous Virgil Fox in his musical maturity, technical prowess and infectious love of the organ.

October 8, 2006, 3 pm. NEW ENGLAND VOICES, \$10/\$5, 1st Congregational Church, 165 Main St, Amherst. Music on Main opens its season with a concert entitled, The River of Love, a program of Shaker song arrangements and new compositions. The presentation includes 18 and 19th century spirituals and new compositions based on Shaker themes. A highlight of the afternoon will be the premiere of a new choral piece, The Humble Heart, by Amherst College professor Eric Sawyer. New England Voices brings their award-winning program to our area for family audiences, thanks to a grant from The Island Fund for the New York Community Trust.

Monday, October 9, 2006, AGO Springfield "Fall Organ Crawl" to New Haven, CT, in conjunction with Worcester and Hartford Chapters. \$55 including transportation and lunch. Visit www.worcesterago.org for more info and registration.

Monday, October 9, 8pm, Woolsey Hall, Yale. Dave Brubeck Quartet with the Yale Camerata (full orchestra).

Sunday, October 29, 2006 – 3:00pm Paul Jacobs, Concert Organist. Presented by

Assumption College Humanarts. Chapel of the Holy Spirit 500 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609 Admission: Free.

www.assumption.edu/humanarts

Sunday, October 29, 2006 – 5:00pm

Halloween "Spooktakular" Organ Concert and Story Telling, Second Congregational Church, 16 Court Square, Greenfield. Featuring Organist, Phillip Stimmel Rev. Armand Proulx and Story Teller, Cynthia Pomeroy. Door prizes and "Witch's brew" refreshments after the concert. *Early Bird Tickets:* \$8 for ages 12 and up, \$3 for kids 6-11, World Eye Bookshop, 156 Main St., Greenfield (772-2186), *At the Door:* \$10 for ages 12 and up, \$5 for kids 6-11, *FREE* for Children 5 and under. This is a Faith fund event-10% of all proceeds will be donated to "Warm the Children" Fund.

NOVEMBER 2006

November 3 & 4

Schola Nova, under the direction of Terry Larsen. Music of Mozart, Haydn, Biebl, and Telemann including Haydn's *Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo*. E Lary Grossman, accompanist. Friday, November 3, 2006, Newman Center, UMASS Amherst. Sunday, November 4, 2005, Mother of Sorrow's Chapel, Providence Place, Holyoke. Free

Sunday, November 5, 2006, 2:00pm. Rod Gisick, organist; with Julia Fox Soprano. Bach, Bruhns, Barber, Franck, Wolf, etc.

Sunday, November 5th at 4:00 PM

Concert of works for organ by Bach, de Grigny, and Distler; duets for oboe/English horn and organ by J.L. Krebs, Jan Koetsier, and A. Guilmant; and arias for soprano, oboe, and organ by Bach and Handel. Thomas Pousont, organ; Hilary Philipp, oboe/English horn/oboe d'amore; and Jennifer Tyo, soprano. First Church of Deerfield (Brick Church), 71 Main St., Old Deerfield.

And More Events!

Sunday, November 5th at 4:00 PM

Concert of works for organ by Bach, de Grigny, and Distler; duets for oboe/English horn and organ by J.L. Krebs, Jan Koetsier, and A. Guilment; and arias for soprano, oboe, and organ by Bach and Handel. Thomas Pousont, organ; Hilary Philipp, oboe/English horn/oboe d'amore; and Jennifer Tyo, soprano. First Church of Deerfield (Brick Church), 71 Main St., Old Deerfield

Wednesday, November 8, 2006, 7:30 PM

Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield
BONIFANTES Czech choir of men and boys on their premier American tour.
www.bonifantes.cz/en/boyschoir.php

Sunday, November 12, 2006, 3:00pm

AGO Springfield Chapter 60th Anniversary
Interfaith Festival Service, Trinity United
Methodist Church, Springfield. Reception to follow.

Save the dates! The AGO Region I Convention in 2007 is being hosted by the Rhode Island Chapter, AGO, June 24-27, 2007.

Concert Series

Organist Christie to Commemorate Death of Dietrich Buxtehude in String of Concerts at Holy Cross. In an ambitious undertaking, organist James David Christie will present the complete organ works of the great 17th-century North German organist-composer Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707) in a cycle of eight concerts to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the composer's death. As part of the Holy Cross Chapel Artists Series, "The Buxtehude Tercentenary at Holy Cross" will be performed on the late 17th-century North German inspired Taylor & Boody organ throughout the 2006-2007 concert season. The concerts, free and open to the public, will be in the College's Saint Joseph Memorial Chapel at 3 p.m. on the following Sundays:
Fall 2006

Concert I: Sept. 24
Concert II: Oct. 15
Concert III: Nov. 12
Concert IV: Dec. 10
Spring 2007
Concert V: Feb. 11
Concert VI: March 18
Concert VII: April 1
Concert VIII: April 22

Novi Cantori

December 2, 3:30pm, First Congregational Church, 18 Broad Street, Westfield, MA. Family Carol Festival, with the New England Brass Quartet. Traditional carols from around the world, with audience participation.

December 3, 4:00pm, Saint Stanislaus Church, 566 Front Street, Chicopee, MA. Novi's traditional fine arts choral concert, with John Anderson, organ, featuring the finest in Christmas music from the Renaissance to the present

December 11, 1:00pm, Granville Meetinghouse, Route 57, Granville, MA. Novi's fine arts program in a beautiful New England meetinghouse, with harpsichord.

December 16, 7:30pm, Grace Church 55 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT. Novi's fine arts program.

December 17, 3:00pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 335 Longmeadow Street Longmeadow MA. Christmas Carol Festival, with the New England Brass Quartet

Positions Available

Position: East Longmeadow United Methodist Church - Music Director/Pianist/Organist (part-time) 215 Somers Road, Rte 83 East Longmeadow, MA 01028 Pastor: Reverend Kelly Turney

Organ/Piano: Moller Pipe Organ, Kawai Console, Anderson Baby Grand **Responsibilities:** Music Director to renew and grow an established music program. Select, plan and coordinate all music for worship in cooperation with pastoral staff. Direct established adult choir and build a youth music program for pre-K through High School. Lead in worship by providing organ and/or keyboard music for church services and act as primary accompanist for assigned choirs, ensembles and soloists. Candidate should possess enthusiasm for worship and the ministry of music. While strong music skills are needed, emphasis will be placed on teamwork, people skills, and creativity. 1 weekly service, 2 weekly rehearsals (1 night and Sunday morning); 10-15 hours per week. 4 weeks paid vacation. **Salary:** \$12,000 - \$14,000 based on experience **Position available:** September, 2006

Application Deadline: July 15, 2006 **Contact:** Paul Kinney Daytime phone: 413-525-4565 Fax: 413-525-4590 E-mail: Paul@retailtenants.org

First Congregational Church, UCC, 43 Silver St, Greenfield, MA 01301

Position Title: Director of Music/Organist

Description: Organist and choir director for both an adult choir and children's choir. Collaborates with minister on music for Sunday worship and special services. Additional music events include a fall community-wide gospel festival and a Christmas or Easter Cantata.

Degree/Experience: BA in Music or equivalent church experience

Hours: 10-15 hours; 1 service and 2 rehearsals a week

Organ: 1960's Estey, 2 manuals; 2 pianos: Yamaha upright and Kimball upright

Salary: \$12,000 (negotiable) with 4 paid vacation days and 1 paid sick day. Additional income from weddings and funerals

Position Available: January 14th, 2007

Contact: Judith Kinley

kinley@firstchurchgreenfield.org

kinley@sover.net

413-774-3449

www.firstchurchgreenfield.org

ORGANIST CHOIR DIRECTOR in NW Corner of Connecticut

Position open at St. John's Episcopal Church in Salisbury, Connecticut. Duties include Wednesday evening rehearsals, a brief rehearsal Sunday morning and leading music at the principal 10:00 Eucharist. Also collaborative planning with the Rector and, from time to time, making arrangements with special guest instrumentalists. Good communication skills required. References and resume. Salary Range: \$12,000-16,000 depending upon experience and ability. Rector enjoys musical diversity. **Contact:** The Rev. John F. Carter, St. John's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 391 Salisbury, CT 06068 Tel 860-435-4500 email: sjsalisbury@sbcglobal.net

Springfield
Chapter,
American Guild
of Organists

Chiff Chat Newsletter

To submit information regarding positions, upcoming concerts, recitals, or area events, please email newsletter@springfieldago.org. Submissions for the November issue are due by October 15, 2006.

If you prefer to receive an electronic copy of Chiff Chat newsletters, please let us know! Visit us on the web at www.springfieldago.org.

Celebrating 60 Years as a Chapter!

CHIFF CHAT

American Guild of Organists

Springfield, MA Chapter

R. Trunzo, Newsletter Editor

81 Briar Way

Greenfield, MA 01301