

Chiff Chat

OCTOBER, 2013

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

We started our chapter year off with a very successful Members' Recital with 35 in attendance. This event took place at St. John's Episcopal Church in Northampton and the host was Grant Moss, a past dean of our chapter. There was a reception where you could greet people before the program and after where you could talk to the performers. I want to thank Scott Bailey, program chair, for making all the arrangements for this Members Recital. Our chapter also wants to thank the members of St. John's for allowing us to hold this event in their church.

The recital opened with a prayer by our Chaplain, the Rev. William Wallis. The following are the members who performed along with their selections: **Joseph Geehern** who played *Psalm 19* by Benedetto Marcello and *Minuet in F Major* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; **Charles Marshall** who played *Preludium in F Dur, BWV 556* by Johann Sebastian Bach; **Scott Bailey**, CAGO who played *Prelude on a theme of Gustav Holst* by Charles Callahan and *Toccata in Seven* by John Rutter, and past dean **Martha Sienkiewicz** who played *Wachet Auf* by Paul Manz. Martha also played the hymn *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* to the tune of *Lasst Uns Erfreuen* with flautist Linda Lefebvre, a member of Grace Lutheran Church. Finally, **Grant Moss** played *Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541* by Johann Sebastian Bach. We closed the program

by singing, "When in Our Music God is Glorified" played by Scott Bailey.

The following are the members you chose to lead the Springfield Chapter.

Dean: Donald E. Hooton, **Sub Dean:** Quentin Faulkner, **Treasurer:** James Barnes, **Secretary:** Charles Marshall, **Chaplain:** The Rev. William H. Wallis, **Directors:** Scott Bailey, Joseph Geehern, Lori Bourret, Elizabeth Dawson, John Karalekas and Mary Jeanne Tash.

There are two chapter events coming up before the holiday season. The first one is on Saturday, October 5th a **Choral Reading Session** from 9am to 12pm to be held at First Congregational Church, West Springfield, MA. It is located at the corner of Lathrop and Park Streets on the Green. The presenter is Quentin Faulkner, and James Maes is our host.

On Monday, November 4th at 6pm you can attend our **Pastor/Organist Dinner** which will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 1552 Westfield Street, West Springfield, MA. You will be in for a delicious meal. The speaker will be Martin Jean, director of the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

I look forward to seeing you on October 5th, at 9am at First Congregational Church.

-Donald Hooton, dean



CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dean - Donald Hooton
Sub-dean - Quentin Faulkner
Treasurer - Jim Barnes
Secretary - Charles Marshall

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Bailey
Lori Bourret
Elizabeth Dawson
Joe Geehern
John Karalekas
Mary Jeanne Tash

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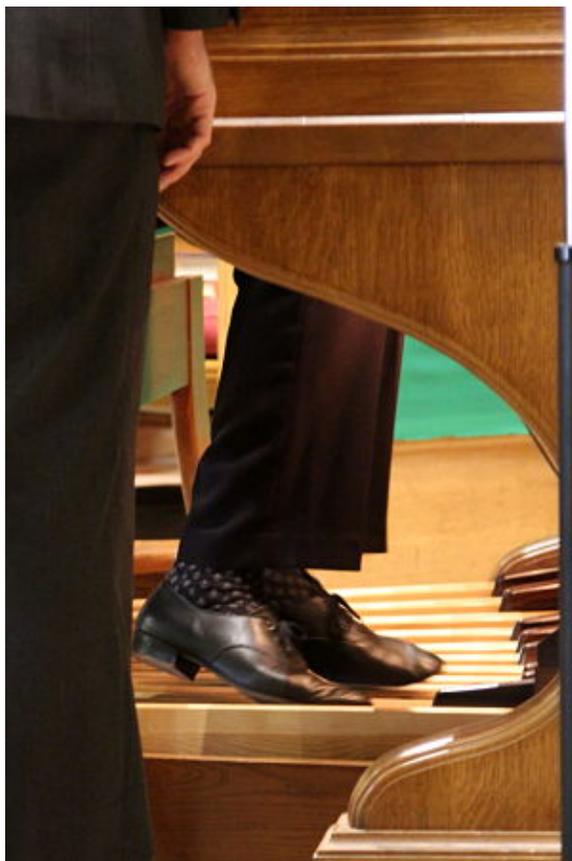
Next Chapter Board Meeting: Monday, October 7th, 2013 - 7:00pm
United Congregational Church Church, Holyoke

UPDATES AND CORRECTIONS

The chapter *Choral Reading Session* will take place on Oct. 5th, 2013 from 9am-12pm at the First Congregational Church of West Springfield. The September Chiff Chat had this listed as Oct. 4th.

The chapter *Pastor/Organist Dinner* will take place on Nov. 4th, 2013 at 6:00pm at Grace Lutheran Church in West Springfield. The September Chiff Chat dean's message listed this event on Nov. 5th.

The *Silent Movie "It"* performed by Peter Krasinski will take place on May 10th, 2014 at 7:00pm at United Congregational Church of Holyoke. The September Chiff Chat dean's message listed this event as May 11th.



FEET

I could not help thinking about feet at the Members Recital at St. John's in Northampton on September 22nd. I was taking photos of members who were performing at the console when I looked down and started thinking about how fascinated I am with good pedaling.

In my twenty years of playing I must say my feet, with practice, can do the job. What they can't do is dance on the pedals (nor on the dance floor). Maybe because I started at the age of forty or that I have flat feet without much spring in them, or maybe it is just that I can't watch my feet while I play to see what they look like. But I surmise by the sensation I get when I'm playing that they are not flowing gracefully across the pedals, but rather they are finding their way and happy to arrive on time.

Larry Schipull is reading a book about Bach's feet. Interesting. I have seen a lot of organists pedaling their feet over the years. I have seen feet in rhinestone organ shoes (Diane Bish, and she can get away with it!), organists in heels, Mary Jane's, in stocking feet with no shoes, organists wearing boat shoes, and my least favorite, bare feet (need I say more?)

My favorite is feet in black dress socks and black tie organ shoes. I fear some of you are thinking I should get a life, but bear with me for one more moment. I like the formal look at the console. Also when a non-organist speaks with you, isn't one of the most popular questions "how can you play with your feet?" Even non-organists are fascinated by the use of our feet and the fact that many of us wear special organ shoes.

My last remark about feet is a little game. I would like you to try to guess whose feet these belong to in the photo near this article. Hints: they are certainly not mine, nor Bach's, but they dance effortlessly over the pedals to the joy of anyone who appreciates the challenge and beauty of playing, watching, and listening to the King of Instruments.

-Article written by Mary Jeanne Tash

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October Events

5 Sat. at 9:00am

Chapter Event

Anthem Reading Session at the First Congregational Church of West Springfield, MA. Presented by Quentin Faulkner.

13 Sun. at 3:00pm

The First Church of Deerfield's "The Brick Church" Music Series will feature **Ensemble Schumann**, with Sally Pinkas, Steve Larson, viola, and Tom Gallant, oboe. Music by Kahn, Saint-Saens, Bruch, Reutter, and Mozart. There is a *suggested donation of \$10* at the door with a reception following at Deerfield Academy.

19 Sat. at 7:30pm

The Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel presents **Viva Italia!** a festival of Italian choral and instrumental music with the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults, strings, trumpet, and oboe. Music includes Vivaldi's Concerto for four violins, Concerto for oboe and strings, & the Gloria in D, Pergolesi's Magnificat, and trumpet sonatas of Gabrielli. *Donations accepted.*

20 Sun. at 4:00pm

Grant Moss will present an organ concert at Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield to honor the career of **Peter Beardsley**, organist and choirmaster of the Cathedral for 36 years. Music includes the premiere of a work commissioned by the Cathedral (James Monroe, Dean) called *Hymnos* by Ronald Perera, Professor Emeritus at Smith

College. Also music by Bach, Vivaldi, and more.

November Events

3 Sun. at 10:00am

St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Hanover, NH presents Duruflé's *Requiem* with Dr. Gerald Weale, conducting and Peter Beardsley, Accompanist.

3 Sun. at 2:00pm

Children's Chorus of Springfield performance at Springfield City Library. *Admission is free.*

3 Sun. at 4:00pm

Calvary Presbyterian Church in Enfield, CT is hosting a concert in memory of Arlene Howes. Springfield AGO members are invited to play. Contact Lori Bourret at lopobo@cox.net for more information.

4 Mon. at 6:00pm

Chapter Event

Pastor/Organist Dinner with guest speaker Martin Jean from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. Grace Lutheran Church, West Springfield, MA.

9 Sat. at 7:30pm

Sixth Annual **Show Your Heart Concert** at the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel. Benefit concert on behalf of the Open Pantry. Music is being provided by the Pioneer Valley School for the Performing Arts, Bath Path College, Greater Westfield Choral Association, and the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults. *Suggested donations: \$10 General Public; \$5 Students and Seniors.*

16 Sat. at 3:00pm

Children's Chorus of Springfield concert, Trinity Methodist Church, Springfield. *Admission is free.*

24 Sun. at 3:00pm

The Hampshire Choral Society will present their fall concert featuring the *Vespers* by Michael Haydn and the *Magnificat* by Zelenka at Abbey Memorial Chapel at Mt. Holyoke College. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, \$5 for children. www.hampshirechoral.org.

December Events

7 Sat. at 7:30pm

Novi Cantori will perform at the annual Winter Concert held at the First Congregational Church in Westfield, MA.

7 Sat. at 7:30pm

Children's Chorus of Springfield sings a Jerry Noble holiday medley at the Springfield Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Pops concert.

8 Sun. at 3:00pm

Thomas Pousont, will present an organ recital commemorating his 10th Anniversary as Organist and Director of Music at The First Church of Deerfield, 71 Old Main Street, Deerfield and the 10th Anniversary of the installation of the Richards, Fowkes tracker organ, Opus 13. There is a *suggested donation of \$10* at the door with a reception following in the Caswell Library at Deerfield Academy.

ST. ANDREW'S, LONGMEADOW TO HOST COLIN D. LYNCH

On October 27 at 4 p.m., **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church** in Longmeadow, Massachusetts will host the third concert in a series of organ recitals celebrating the tenth anniversary of the dedication of St. Andrew's pipe organ and will feature Colin D. Lynch, the Associate Director of Music and Organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, Copley Square. The concert is free and open to the public.

The concert will include works including "Sonata No.2 in C" by Felix Mendelssohn, "Salamanca" by Guy Bovert, and "Prelude and Fugue in B Major, Op. 7" by Marcel Dupré.

First Prize Winner of the prestigious Fort Wayne National Organ Playing Competition, Colin Daniel Lynch maintains a busy performance career that has taken him to prominent venues throughout the U.S., Europe,

Canada, South Africa, Brazil, Argentina and Cuba.

As Director of Chapel Music and School Organist at St. Paul's School in Concord, NH, he led the choirs on performance tours to South Africa and Cuba in addition to producing two commercially available recordings.

Mr. Lynch earned an Artist Diploma from Oberlin Conservatory, studying with James David Christie and Olivier Latty. He holds a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance with Thomas Murray at Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music and earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Northwestern University, where he studied with Douglas Cleveland.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is located at 335 Longmeadow Street (Route 5) in Longmeadow,

PASTOR/ORGANIST DINNER

This month, be sure to register for the Pastor Organist Dinner on Monday November 4th at 6:00pm at Grace Lutheran Church in West Springfield, MA. **See Page 7** for more details.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Please take a moment to fill out the membership survey found on **page 6**. This survey will help us in planning events for next year, find out how best to serve you our members, and receive feedback about how the board is doing. You can also take the survey online at www.springfieldago.org. The password to access the survey is "springfieldago".

33 VARIATIONS

Now through October 27 at the Majestic Theater, West Springfield: "33 Variations" a unique play about a Beethoven scholar and her battle with Lou Gehrig's Disease, featuring chapter member **Larry Picard** playing excerpts from Beethoven's "Diabelli Variations" on stage at various times throughout the play. Performances Wednesday through Sunday each week at varying times. www.majestictheater.com.

JOB POSTINGS

First Congregational Church of Dalton, MA, UCC

The first Congregational Church of Dalton, UCC seeks a candidate for the position of Music Director. 10 hrs/week. Adult choir. 1-2 rehearsals/week. Two Sunday services. Salary: \$10,000-\$12,000, negotiable.

Contact:

John Kittredge (413) 684-0271
(jkittredge@crane.com)

OR

Carlton Dodge (413) 684-3117
(CDODGE1@berkshire.rr.com)



Visit our website!!!
www.springfieldago.org

VENUES WANTED

David Neill is looking for locations to present concerts in the spring of 2014. The concert involves four individual soloists, two trumpet and two trombone players accompanied by piano or organ. There is no charge for these concerts to the venues as all costs are covered by grants. If you are looking for performances at your church, please contact David Neil, tbn8@aol.com or cell [413-686-5027](tel:413-686-5027).

WELCOME RECEPTION AND MEMBERS' RECITAL

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2013, 3:00PM

A welcome reception and members' recital, the kick-off event of the Springfield AGO Chapter, began the new year in an exciting and resounding way. It was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Northampton, MA on Sunday, September 22nd at 3:00pm.

The event began with a reception featuring a table of delicious food that was arranged beautifully by dean Donald Hooton and his wife. After a time of fellowship and greeting each other, we proceeded to the sanctuary for a warm welcome by dean Hooton and a listing of upcoming events by Scott Bailey, who graciously and diligently organized the event. Rev. William Wallis, chaplain, gave a wonderful prayer of blessing for the gathering.



Joseph Geehern began the program with a glorious rendition of *Psalm 19* by Benedetto Marcello. He followed the piece with *Minuet in F Major* by Mozart, delightfully played, reflecting the character of the composer.



Next, before he played, **Charles Marshall** spoke of his two organ teachers, Dr. R. Rice Nutting, former organist at historic Park Street Church in Boston (he is now

90) and Dr. Matthew McConnell, Minister of Music at All Saints Episcopal Church in North Adams. He dedicated the piece, *Praeludium in F-Dur* by Bach to both of his instructors. He played with great ease and articulation.



Scott Bailey played two dramatic pieces for the organ: *Prelude on a Theme of Gustav Holst* by Charles Callahan and *Toccata in Seven* by John Rutter. He brilliantly displayed the full capabilities of the glorious Austin Organ at St. John's. We heard the full colors of the King of Instruments!



As she was coming forward to play, **Martha Sienkiewicz**, past dean, said "Scott, that's not fair!" (meaning, "what a tough act to follow"). She gave a very interesting short talk about the piece she was about to play, a delightful rendition of *Wachet Auf* by Paul Manz. It was very well done and sounded quite whimsical. Martha brought with her flautist Linda Lefebvre who played beautifully along with Martha on the hymn *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones (Lasst Uns Erfreuen)*. How breath taking it was to have the thirty people in

attendance singing the hymn with great enthusiasm.



The closing performer was **Grant Moss**, organist and choir master at St. John's Episcopal. He played the *Prelude and Fugue in G Major* by Bach, (one of my favorites) with great skill, splendid registration, and academic preciseness, entralling us all!

Don shared closing remarks, encouraging us to attend as many chapter events as possible during the year. The program ended with Scott Bailey "pulling out all the stops" with glorious and magnificent sounds for the hymn *When in Our Music God is Glorified*. It was as if heaven came down and filled the church with music as we all sang exultantly! We all agreed that we had a marvelous recital as we again partook of the remaining refreshments.

We truly have a wealth of opportunities to hear the various organs and artists in our area, as well as artists from other parts of the country. There are educational music events and other activities that will broaden our horizons. Let us capitalize on all of these opportunities and make this an even greater year for participation and camaraderie!

*-Article written by
Charles Marshall,
chapter secretary*

-Photos by Mary Jeanne Tash

**Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Membership Survey, 2013 - 2014**

1. Please rate the following program topics according to your own professional interests on a scale of 1-5 (5 being the most appropriate, 1 being the least appropriate).

- | | |
|--|---|
| _____ recitals by guest artists | _____ organ and instruments programs |
| _____ recitals by chapter members | _____ choral music reading/workshops |
| _____ Guild service | _____ choral concerts |
| _____ organ playing/repertory workshops | _____ professional development programs |
| _____ organ building and design programs | |

2. Please rate the following program topics according to your view of the needs of the community (scale as above).

- | | |
|--|---|
| _____ recitals by guest artists | _____ organ and instruments programs |
| _____ recitals by chapter members | _____ choral music reading/workshops |
| _____ Guild service | _____ choral concerts |
| _____ organ playing/repertory workshops | _____ professional development programs |
| _____ organ building and design programs | |

3. What evening is best for you to attend Chapter events? _____
 What evening is worst for you to attend? _____

4. What is the most important and worthwhile single goal that the Springfield Chapter should strive to accomplish, in your view?

5. What has the Springfield Chapter failed to do that it should have done in the last several years?

6. Are you currently a member of the Springfield Chapter, AGO? _____ Yes _____ No

Optional

Name: _____

Age (circle one): < 18 18 - 35 35 - 50 50 - 65 65 - 80 80+

Are you currently a church musician? _____ Yes _____ No

*This survey can also be found on the home page at our website www.springfieldago.org.
(password = springfieldago)*

You can send this form to: Scott Bailey, 50 Woodbridge Ln. Westfield, MA 01085.

Pastor-Organist Dinner

Monday, November 4, 2012 at 6:00 PM

Grace Lutheran Church

1552 Westfield St. (Rt. 20), West Springfield, MA

Cost is \$20 per person. Come with or without your clergy Person

Featured speaker is Martin Jean,
director of the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.



Menu will include:
Baked Virginia ham with gravy
Mashed potatoes
Autumn corn
Fresh spinach salad
Rolls and butter
Pumpkin Pie with whipped cream
Coffee, tea, cider and wine (water, of course)

Please be sure to include on the form any dietary needs: vegan? vegetarian? gluten free? If people tell us ahead of time, we can offer each of these options.

Email your reservation to intwmass@aol.com, or phone Jim Barnes at 413-568-8477

or mail the form below, with check payable to AGO Springfield

to Jim Barnes, 27 Carriage Lane, Westfield, MA, 01085

Deadline is Monday October 28th, 2013!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ e-mail _____

Number of persons attending _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Chiff Chat Newsletter

**Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Celebrating 64 years as a chapter.**

To submit information regarding positions, upcoming concerts, recitals, or area events, please email Scott Bailey at sbailey@westfield.ma.edu. Submissions are due by the 20th of each month. Also, visit our website at www.springfieldago.org

**Next chapter event: Choral Reading Session,
Saturday Oct. 5th, 2013, 9:00am - 12:00pm,
First Congregational Church,
31 Elm St., West Springfield, MA**

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.*

Chiff Chat
American Guild of Organists
Springfield, MA Chapter
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Westfield, MA 01085