

Chiff Chat

Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter
American Guild of Organists



May & Summer 2010

A message from the Dean...

At our last chapter meeting our program committee was already hard at work planning next year's events and the line-up is definitely interesting and worthwhile. The fine tuning is still being done, but I can tell you that the season will include social events, members' recitals at Halloween and in the Spring, a pastor-organist dinner, an anthem reading and a silent movie. I'm a little distressed, though. It seems as though we were just planning the 2009-2010 season and now those events are already behind us. Recitals by Christopher Houlihan and Almut Rössler, an anthem read, a mini-convention, an information session with Stephen Hamilton, a members' recital and a silent movie will now go into our scrapbook. How did all of that happen so quickly?

Can you list all of the big events in your career or in your life from the past year? I am often amazed by how quickly I forget, especially when someone asks me "How did it go last night?" and I have to stop and think about what they mean. They might be asking about a performance I played that I forgot about because I am already caught up in what is coming next.

Do you ever take a break from what you have to do to in the future to think about what you have done already? The special service, the funeral or wedding

that was particularly challenging musically, the special event that took so much of your time and ability to prepare? Do you take a moment to congratulate yourself for having produced so much music for others to hear?

This is my last letter as Dean of the Springfield Chapter AGO. On the next page of this newsletter you can read the names of people who also may not realize how much of their time and talent they have shared with the chapter. My job has been pretty easy because of them, and there are a few people on that list to whom I owe a special expression of gratitude. Martha Sienkiewicz has raised the bar for AGO Sub Deans everywhere by planning and producing chapter events with great attention to detail, often helped by Karen Banta and Don Hooten. Mary Jeanne Tash and Jim Barnes have served tirelessly in their capacities as Secretary and Treasurer and will continue to do so. The same is true for Larry Picard and Allan Taylor, our newsletter and website editors.

So, all I can say is take summer by the horns and enjoy it. Take stock of what you accomplished in the past year and let it give you strength and passion for what is to come in the fall. Above all, thank you for making my time as your Dean so enjoyable. - **Grant**

Springfield Chapter Leadership

Dean	Grant Moss
Sub Dean	Martha Sienkiewicz
Secretary	Mary Jeanne Tash
Treasurer	James Barnes
Directors	Karen Banta, Barbara Boudo, Quentin Faulkner, Don Hooton, Mark Jacobson, Larry Picard
Chaplain	Fr. William Wallis
Education	Martha Sienkiewicz, Don Hooton
Membership	Karen Banta
Chiff Chat Editor	Larry Picard
Web Site	Allan Taylor
Yearbook Editor	Peter Beardsley
Investments	Charles Page, E Lary Grossman, William Czelusniak, James Barnes

Final Chapter Event for 2010

June 7 (Monday) 6:30 PM, St. James Episcopal Church, Greenfield, **Annual Banquet**. The event actually begins at 5:30 p.m. with an open console at the 1959 three-manual, 27-rank Moeller organ. Social time is at 6:30 and the 7 p.m. dinner will include soup, salad, braised chicken tenderloin, penne pasta with vegetarian sauce and dessert. The evening will conclude with entertainment by **Bob Sparkman, clarinetist**, and **Jerry Noble, pianist**, playing jazz favorites. A registration form is included in this issue.

AAM Conference in Hartford

June 20 – 24, 2010 - Association of Anglican Musicians' National Conference

"Affirming the Human Spirit" is the theme and the schedule includes the following: On **Sunday, June 20, at 7:30 p.m.**, St. Joseph's Cathedral hosts "**An Evening in Belgium**," with choirs from St. James's, West Hartford; Gaudeamus/Chorus Angelicus, Torrington; and Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford, performing Flor Peeters' *Missa Festiva* and Joseph Jongen's *Mass, Op. 130*. On **Monday, June 21, at 10:30 a.m.**, the **Opening Festival Eucharist** will be celebrated at Christ Church Cathedral by the Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson. Throughout the week, the conference will visit St. James's, West Hartford, Trinity College Chapel, Woolsey Hall, Christ Church, New Haven, and Trinity Church, Hartford. The Hartford AGO Chapter is also co-sponsoring a concert on **Tuesday, June 22, at 8:00 p.m.** The internationally acclaimed early music vocal ensemble, **Pomerium**, will sing a concert of Mannerist Music at St. Patrick/St. Anthony Church. GH-CAGO members will be able to receive \$15 tickets (normally \$25). The 14-voice a cappella ensemble has been recorded on the Deutsche Grammophon/Archiv, Glissando and Dorian labels, and has performed in numerous international festivals. Advance tickets: 860-527-7231, x112. Daily registration prices for the conference are available.

www.aamhartford2010.org

Editor's Note: This will be the last issue of Chiff Chat until September, unless breaking news causes an unscheduled firing-up of the presses. Got events for next season to advertise? Send me your line-up and I will keep it on file, entering concerts on the calendar as they come up. -

Larry

Upcoming Events

May 2010

Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. The Children's Chorus of Springfield and the South Hadley Children's Chorus perform under the direction of E. Wayne Abercrombie and Catherine Melhorn at Providence Place, Holyoke. No admission charge.

Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. The final concert of the Tuesday Morning Music Club season features Bob Sparkman, clarinet, and Jerry Noble, piano, performing a program of lighter music. Trinity Methodist Church, Sumner Avenue, Springfield. Admission is \$10.

Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. The Children's Chorus of Springfield performs songs of many cultures at Trinity United Methodist Church, Springfield. Free-will offering.

Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. The Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults at St. Michael's Cathedral, Springfield, will present an evening of choral and instrumental music with soloist Courtney Sylvain, string quartet, and organ. Works will include Haydn's *Mass of St. John of God*, Mozart's motet 'Exsultate Jubilate' and two choruses from Handel's *Messiah*. Instrumental sonata or concerto by Handel, Haydn, or Mozart will be interspersed. Randall Thompson's 'Alleluia' and other favorites from the past season will also be performed. Todd Fruth and Ladislav Pfeifer conduct. Free will offering. Contact Jessica Hill at (413) 452-0839 or worship@diospringfield.org.

Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Schola Nova sings Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" as well as works by William Byrd and others. St. Cecilia Church, 42 Main Street, Wilbraham. Free-will offering. www.scholanova.org

Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Schola Nova sings Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" as well as works by William Byrd and others. Skinner Chapel at United Church, Holyoke. Free-will offering. www.scholanova.org

Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. Quentin & Mary Murrell Faulkner will play an organ recital, "Old & New, Pink & Blue," at St. James Episcopal Church, Federal at Church Streets in Greenfield. Works by J.S. Bach, Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel, Ethyl Smyth, Antonio Soler, Felix Mendelssohn, Dan Locklair, and Charles-Marie Widor. Free will offering to support St. James' music budget.

June 2010

Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. Novi Cantori sings music of the 19th century at Wilbraham United Church. Choral works by Brahms, Elgar, Rheinberger (*Stabat Mater*), Schubert (*Mass in G*) and Widor. Free-will offering. www.novicantori.org

Monday, June 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. (Chapter event – preceded by a 5:30 p.m. organ crawl) Springfield Chapter annual meeting and banquet at St. James Episcopal Church, Greenfield. See page 2 for details.

Thursday, June 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. The Jupiter String Quartet with pianist David Westfall play at South Church, New Britain, CT. Also "Strawberries and Jazz" with the Hall High School Jazz Combo. **Strawberries at 6 p.m., concert at 7:30 p.m.** Free-will donation.



CHIFF CHAT

American Guild of Organists

Springfield, MA Chapter

Larry Picard, Newsletter Editor

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Springfield, MA 01109-4036

Chiff Chat Newsletter

*Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Celebrating 62 Years as a chapter!*



WASHINGTON DC
AGO 2010

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

June 7 Chapter Event: Annual meeting and banquet at St. James Episcopal Church, Greenfield. See inside for more.