

Chiff Chat

Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter
American Guild of Organists

April 2011



A message from the Dean...

The Quimby Competition...

The Guild treasury supported the recent Quimby Competition to the tune of \$900. Since it is your money, I guess you'd like to know how and why it was spent, eh? Well, I, too, was wondering so I went....and now I can tell you first hand. It absolutely "blew me away"...

The Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists (RCYO), held in odd-numbered years, is sponsored and administered by the nine regions of the American Guild of Organists. Competitors must be under 24 years of age as of August 1 of the year the competition is held. Membership in the AGO is not required. Prizes at the Chapter levels vary. Our Chapter combined with the Fairfield (CT) Chapter and held the event at Center Church in Hartford. We offered a \$600 first prize, a \$300 second prize and a \$100 third prize. We also hired three great judges at a mere \$100 each and paid Center Church \$500 for using the space and tuning the organ as well as arranging rehearsal times for the competitors. The grand total was \$1800 and we split it equally between the Fairfield Chapter and our own. Why Fairfield? Because they had one competitor, Ken, a Yale grad student 22 years of age. He played divinely and won the first prize.

Springfield was there and sponsoring because we have two wonderful young people who entered: Griffin McMahon, age 18 and Monica Czausz, age 17. Both of them played extremely well and both

understand that the Springfield Chapter stands solidly behind them. We also will give them scholarships to attend the POE (Pipe Organ Encounter) in Boston this coming summer. Griffin took the second prize and Monica, the third. The local winner (Ken) will compete at the regional convention in Morristown, NJ in July and the first prize winner there will receive \$1000, thanks to Michael Quimby and Quimby Organs.

It was an afternoon of terrific organ music and those in the audience had a rare treat. The audience was sparse and we were instructed to be absolutely quiet. No applause. The judges could not look at the contestants, who were sequestered until their turn came. Then they entered this quiet but beautifully classic church, sat down at the organ and began to play. It was totally intimidating but these young people did a fine job of some very difficult music. I was so proud of them. Rest assured; your dues dollars are well spent.



Contestants and judges: Peter Stoltzfus, Ken Miller, Monica Czausz, Eileen Hunt, Griffin McMahon and Karl Paukert.

Springfield Chapter Leadership

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

Next Chapter Event: April 9 (Saturday) 7:00 PM, Peter Krasinski accompanies the silent movie "The General" at United Congregational Church of Holyoke.

Final Event: End-of-year cookout, Friday, June 10 at 4 p.m. at the home of Charles Page, Enfield, Ct. Starting time for actual eating will be 5 p.m. for those who work.

Position open: First Baptist Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield, is looking for an organist/choir-worship band director. \$150-\$200 a week, 2 weeks paid vacation. Choir rehearsal on Sunday mornings. Yamaha Clavinova digital piano, Technics FAI organ. Contact Cindy Johnson by email: cindy@franjohnsons.com or by phone: 413. 374.3142

News from Salem: The Unitarian Universalist Society, 211 Bridge Street, Salem, is presenting pianist Ingrid Jacoby in a benefit concert to restore the church's Hutchings organ. \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. www.salemuu.org

Meet a Springfield Chapter member...



Meet Hedley Yost. Hedley has had a long and distinguished career. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ, was acting university organist and teaching fellow at Stanford University and pursued additional study in France with Nadia Boulanger. He held church posts in New York City and New Jersey, finally settling down to a organist-choir director position at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in New Canaan, CT, where he served a 2000 member congregation for 25 years. Some of his proudest memories are of the active children's choir there and the young boys he trained that were

accepted into the prestigious St. Thomas Choir School in New York City. He was also the artistic director of the church's Courtyard Concerts summer music series. Hedley served two terms as dean of the Fairfield West (CT) Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Currently, Mr. Yost resides in Buckland, MA and is co-organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Ashfield. When he's not at the console, Hedley can be found outdoors on his 20 acres, pruning, planting and cutting up his own wood for his fireplace. The tie he wears in the picture is the official tie of St. Thomas Choir School, given to him as a gift from the school. – **submitted by Martha Sienkiewicz**

Upcoming Events

April 2011

Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. Thomas Pousont and Federico Andreoni play four handed organ works at First Church of Deerfield. Suggested donation \$10
www.firstchurchofdeerfield.org

Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. Novi Cantori sings at St. John's Episcopal Church, Northampton. Britten: "Hymn to Saint Cecilia," and "Te Deum in C Major." Also works of Howells, Palestrina, and di Lasso, and a selection of rarely-heard choral songs by Robert Schumann. John Anderson will demonstrate the organ at each location. \$10 and \$8. www.novicantori.org

Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. The Tuesday Morning Music Club presents Paul Surapine, clarinet, and Margarita Nuller, piano. Trinity Methodist Church, Sumner Ave., Springfield.
www.tuesdaymorningmusicconcerts.org

Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. (Chapter Event) Peter Krasinski accompanies the silent classic "The General" at United Congregational, Church, Holyoke. See page 2.

Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. Novi Cantori sings at Wilbraham United Church. See April 3 entry for details.

Thursday, April 14, 2011, time TBA Schola Nova sings at Hampshire Regional High School, Westhampton, Mass., in a *Collaborative Concert*, with area high school choirs. Music of Eric Whitacre, William Dawson, Norman Luboff, Algirdas Martinaitis. www.scholanova.org

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. The Tuesday Morning Music Club presents Margaret Irwin-Brandon, organ, Tamara Field, oboe, Carol Hutter, viola and Grant Moss, piano. Unitarian-Universalist Society, Porter Lake Drive, Springfield.
www.tuesdaymorningmusicconcerts.org

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Schola Nova sings *Tenebrae--the Passion of Christ* at Our Lady of the Valley Church, Easthampton. Music for the service from Gregorio Allegri's "Miserere."
www.scholanova.org

Friday, April 22, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

Schola Nova sings *Tenebrae--the Passion of Christ*. The service (not a concert) will be at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Longmeadow. See April 19 entry.
www.scholanova.org

May 2011

Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. The Tuesday Morning Music Club holds its Annual Meeting & luncheon at Amherst High School with the school's Select Chorus, Anita Cooper, Director.
www.tuesdaymorningmusicconcerts.org

Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

Organ Recital by Hans Hielscher at the United Congregational Church Holyoke. *This project is supported in part by a grant from the Holyoke Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.* (\$10 suggested donation -- \$5 seniors and students - no one turned away.)



The March 20 Members Recital: Scott Bailey, Emelyn Bashour, Roberta Morkin and Ian McKee.

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!**

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!

Next chapter event: Peter Krasinski accompanies the silent film "The General" at Holyoke United Church, Saturday, April 9 at 7 p.m.