

Chiff Chat

NOVEMBER 2014

Dean's Message

We all hit professional slumps from time to time. They are really easy traps into which one can fall. You know you have fallen when you say to yourself a phrase like "who cares?", "It will do", or the classic "why bother?" Whether some extra efforts went generally unnoticed, or it's been a while since someone said something reassuring, we can easily misread the signals that we think we are receiving.

When I was last slipping into a black hole, and to be honest once you start slipping it's easier to just dive in headfirst, I was fortunately listening to Public Radio on the way to church. A former student of the famous French composer, Nadia Boulanger, was being interviewed and spoke on how Nadia passionately held to the role of musician as being sacred in line with priesthood. She held that music is a sacrament to a world in dire need of having a touch of the divine, the heavenly in their lives.

It's not a cliché that people are moved by music and it is sacramental in that it touches people's lives. For those who are receptive it is almost unlimited in power.

Pastors have an obligation to care for their flock and the world about them. We, who work for religious bodies, have that obligation as well. We, who work in schools or other public areas with music, have that obligation to care for that world too. Musicians are like pastors in that they help make whole what is broken or in need in the human world around them. So if a phrase like "it will do", or the classic "why bother?" crosses the threshold of your mind remind yourself that you are like a priest and that music is the sacramental that you help create for the healing of the world.

That message hit me like a thunderbolt. May it do the same for you.

Ladislaw Pfeifer, dean



Chapter Officers

Chapter Officers

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Calendar of Events

November Events

4 Tue. 10:30am

The Tuesday Morning Music Club will host a concert of oboe quartets featuring Tamara Field, Kirsten Hadden Lipkens, Aaron Lakota, and John Thomas. Organist Larry Picard will also appear on the program. The concert will be held at Providence Place, 5 Gamelin Street, Holyoke, MA.

16 Nov. at 3:00pm

Amherst College senior **Diana Chou** presents her performance thesis recital of works exploring the intriguing relationship between organ music and death. Bach's G minor Fantasy & Fugue, Mozart's F minor Fantasy, and Franck's E major Choral are the large works featured, along with additional selections by Mozart, Sweelinck, Brahms, and Widor. Abbey Memorial Chapel Mount Holyoke College South Hadley

16 Sun. at 4:00pm

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement will host an evensong service with collaborating choirs from Atonement, St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Easthampton, and Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in West Springfield. Freewill offering will be taken.

16 Sun. at 4:00pm

Internationally renowned artists Tanya Anisimova and Pi-Hsun Shih play together as **Duo Bona Fide** and will perform in the **Sacred Cello & Piano Concert** at St. John's in West Hartford, CT,

679 Farmington Ave. *Free admission with a suggested donation \$20.* For more information about this and other upcoming concerts please visit www.reddoormusic.org.

17 Mon. at 6:00pm

Chapter Event

The Springfield Chapter AGO will host its annual **Pastor/Organist Dinner** at The First United Methodist Church, 16 Court Street, in Westfield, MA. The guest speaker will be John Bishop from the Organ Clearing House. For more information, see the insert in this issue.

18 Tue. at 10:30am

The Tuesday Morning Music Club will host a concert featuring Mary Brown-Bonacci, mezzo soprano, and David Garrido Cid, piano. The concert will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA.

22 Sat. at 7:30pm

The seventh annual **Show Your Heart Concert** for the benefit of The Open Pantry Community Services will be held at **The Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel**. Performing groups include Spectrum A Cappella Ensemble from The Pioneer Valley Performing Arts School, The Greater Westfield Choral Association, pianist Catherine Lupien, and the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults. Free will offering with *suggested donation of \$10 and \$7 for seniors and students.* For more information contact [413-452-0845](tel:413-452-0845) or worship@diospringfield.org

23 Sun. at 3:00pm

The Hampshire Choral Society will present its fall program at Abbey Chapel at Mt. Holyoke College. Music will include Mozart's *Solemn Vespers, K. 321* and Handel's *Chandos Anthem No. 11 "Let God Arise"*. For more information visit www.hampshirechoral.org.

23 Sun. at 3:00pm

Organ Concert by **Gail Archer** in honor of the Feast of St. Cecilia. Gail will play the 1921 Austin Pipe Organ and the Rodgers 805C digital organ. A free will offering will be taken up. Refreshments will be served following the concert. **St. Joseph's Church**, State (Rt. 5) & Lafayette Streets, Downtown Schenectady, NY. For information call (518) 331-8047 or visit www.gailarcher.com

December Events

2 Dec 10:30am

The Tuesday Morning Music Club will host a holiday concert featuring the **Epic Brass Quintet**, Earl Raney, director. The concert will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA.

6 Sat. 4:00pm

The First Congregational Church of Westfield will host its annual choral festival featuring **Novi Cantori, Young Singers of Greater Westfield**, and more. Donations accepted at the door. 18 Broad Street, Westfield, MA.

(Continued on next page)

Calendar (continued)

7 Sun. 4:00pm and 7:30pm

Smith College will host their annual Christmas Vespers program in John M. Greene Hall, on the campus of Smith College. Jonathan Hirsh, **Grant Moss** and Joseph Baldwin will direct the choral and instrumental groups. A free-will donation will be collected for the Hampshire County Interfaith Cot Shelter Program. The programs are free of charge and open to the general public.

40 Cymen Dr. in Chicopee, MA. Donations will be accepted at the door.

21 Sun. at 4:00pm

Coming Home: Christmas with Novi Cantori, a concert featuring the professional choral group will be held at The Granville Federated Church, 16 Granby Rd. Granville, MA. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Open Position on the Board

The board of directors for the Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists announces a vacancy. We currently need to fill one seat on the board and are looking for interested members who would like to lend their voice to the management of this chapter. The board meets monthly to plan our upcoming chapter events, to conduct the business of the chapter, and to discuss issues related to our membership. If you think you might like to serve on the board, contact Lad Pfeifer at ljep@diospringfield.org.

13 Sat. at 7:30pm

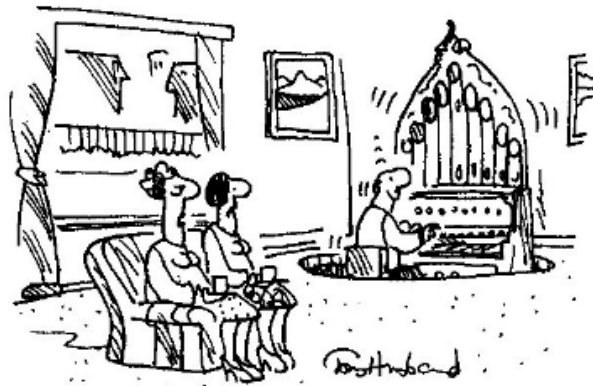
14th annual ceremony of Lessons & Carols, a Festival of Light, will be performed by the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults at The Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel 260 State St, Springfield, MA. The Cathedral Choir will be accompanied by strings, harpsichord, handbells, and the majestic cathedral organ. This public event is free of charge. For more information call [413-452-0845](tel:413-452-0845) or worship@diospringfield.org

14 Sun. at 3:00pm

The **Music at United Concert Series** at the United Congregational Church of Holyoke will host a concert featuring the Holyoke High School Choirs, Mark Todd Director. Suggested donation of \$10. 300 Appleton Street, Holyoke, MA. www.uccholyoke.org.

14 Sun. at 7:00pm

Coming Home: Christmas with Novi Cantori, a concert featuring the professional choral group will be held at St. Stanislaus Basilica,



"...and this is what he spent his lottery winnings on"

CONTRIBUTE TO CHIFF CHAT

Here are some ways you can contribute to our newsletter:

Write a short article of interest to organists, choir directors, or general musicians.

Share some of your research about a particular topic.

Write a concert review of our local performing arts groups, organists, choirs, or other music events of note

Provide your music program's calendar of events for the season

Profile new members so we can get to know them better

Share pictures from our events and concerts

Anyone in the chapter can contribute material to the newsletter. Please send any information to sbailey@westfield.ma.edu on or before the 20th of each month. If you have a story to tell, a picture to share, a special interest piece, or any other newsworthy item, do not hesitate to pass it along to all of your colleagues in the Springfield Chapter AGO.

Scott Bailey, CAGO



Visit our website!!!

www.springfieldago.org

ORGAN COMPETITION

The Winston-Salem (NC) Chapter of the AGO is happy to announce the 4th annual HS Organ Festival & Competition that they co-sponsor with the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The competition is open to any high school senior or younger who has not previously won the competition's First Prize. In addition to cash prizes and potential scholarships, all prize winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Hymn Prize) will receive a copy of one of the eight volumes of Bach works published by Wayne Leupold Editions, compliments of the publisher.

A CD Recording and application is due (received) by December 19, 2014.

For full information about the competition, festival events, and instruments, please visit:

<http://www.timothyolsenorganist.com/hs-competition.html>

JOB POSTINGS

St. Valentine's Polish National Catholic Church, seeks an Organist/Choir Director. One weekend Sunday Mass, Wicks pipe organ. Familiarity with Catholic liturgy a plus. Seasonal liturgies as required. Contact Jan Duffe for salary and details (413-527-2193) or ejduffe2@gmail.com.

Grace Union Church, Wilbraham, MA

Seeks an Organist/Pianist/Choir Director. Reliable person for Sunday AM service and various functions, choir directing and choir practices.

For more detailed information, please contact Douglas Baker at 413-596-5596 or email to graceunionchurch@verizon.net or mail resume to Grace Union Church 10 Chapel Street Wilbraham, MA 01095 Attn: Douglas Baker

The Christian Science Society in downtown Northampton is looking for a keyboard player for their Sunday morning services.

The service goes from 10:30 - 11:30, and includes a prelude, an offertory, three hymns and a postlude. In addition, you would provide accompaniment for one solo vocal piece. There is a piano and an Allen electronic organ in the church. Either one may be played. Our church does not have a choir. The position start date is flexible. The pay is \$80 per service. (Salary may be negotiable.) To inquire further or arrange an audition, please call Jane at: 413-534-3882 or email christianscience.northampton@gmail.com.

PASTOR-ORGANIST DINNER
NOVEMBER 17TH, 2014 – 6:00PM

Cost is \$15 per person. Come with or without your clergy Person

Featured speaker is John Bishop,
director of the Organ Clearing House.



Menu will include:
Potpourri of Hors D'oeuvres
Baked Ham with Pineapple Glaze
Salad
Roasted Medley/White and Sweet Potatoes
Green Beans
Rolls and Butter
Apple Crisp
Coffee, Iced Tea, Cider, Water
Vegetarian/Quiche

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 November 10th, 2014!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ e-mail _____

Number of persons attending _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

NEWS FROM NATIONAL: AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS AWARDS SIX SCHOLARSHIPS TOTALING \$60,000 FOR COLLEGIATE ORGAN STUDY

Call for Scholarship Applications for the 2015–2016 Academic Year

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has awarded four scholarships for undergraduate organ study and two scholarships for graduate organ study to six college organ students enrolled in the 2014–2015 academic year. The six scholars were selected from an application pool of more than 50 students and received the awards based upon their demonstrated ability in organ playing and financial need.

Funded through a generous bequest from the estate of Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee, each undergraduate scholarship carries a cash award of \$7,500 and is renewable for up to four years of collegiate study. Each graduate scholarship carries a cash award of \$15,000 and is renewable for a total of two years of study.

The 2014–2015 Scholarship Award recipients are: Graduate Students Chelsea Barton, McGill University, Jacob Taylor, Indiana University. Undergraduate Students Clara Gerdes, Curtis Institute of Music, Garrett Law, Cleveland

Institute of Music, Prince Nyatanga, Eastman School of Music, Mary Pan, University of Hartford.

The American Guild of Organists is the only organization of its kind with a scholarship program supporting music students in their academic careers at any institution of higher learning of their choice. Applications for the 2014–2015 scholarship awards were received and reviewed by the AGO National Committee on Continuing Professional Education. “This scholarship program exists thanks to the generosity and vision of two gentlemen who bequeathed their estate to the AGO, along with specific instructions as to how the funds are to be distributed,” stated Frederick Hohman, director of the scholarship committee. “Their wish was for the AGO to recognize and support young organists with financial need who have demonstrated accomplishment in organ playing.”

Speaking on behalf of Messrs. Pogorzelski and Yankee, Dale J. Marsico noted, “According to my uncles, the heart is reached easier through the use of organ music than any other musical form. Their music

collection, music room, pipe organ, and Ron’s playing ability were testimony to their love of the instrument. Their gift is a testament to their hopes that future generations might come to enjoy – to love and appreciate organ music as they did. They felt that their bequest to American Guild of Organists offered the best opportunity for that possibility.”

Two new Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarships will be awarded for the 2015–2016 academic year – one for an incoming freshman (\$7,500), the other for a first-year graduate organ student (\$15,000). Eligibility requirements and application details are available online at www.agohq.org/education. The online application period will run from January 1 through February 15, 2015. ■

CAN YOU FIND ALL OF THE ORGAN STOPS?

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BOURDON
 CELESTA
 CHIMES
 CLARABELLA
 CLARINET
 CLARION
 CORNOPEAN
 DIAPASON
 ECHO LIEBLICH
 ENGLISH HORN
 ERZALHER
 FIFTEENTH
 FLAUTO MIRABILIS
 FLUTE
 FRENCH HORN

GAMBA
 GAMBA CELESTE
 GEDECKT
 GEMSHORN
 HARMONIC TUBA
 HECKELPHONE
 MELODIA
 MIXTURE
 NASARD
 OBOE
 OCTAVE
 PICCOLO
 PRINCIPAL
 SEPTIEME
 TIERCE

TRUMPET
 TWELTH
 VIOLA
 VIOLINA
 VIOLONE
 VOIXCELESTE
 VOXHUMANA

(Special thanks to the organ
 at Abbey Chapel at Mt.
 Holyoke College for
 supplying the stop names.)

Chiff Chat Newsletter

**Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Celebrating 65 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:
Pastor-Organist Dinner
Monday November 17th, 6:00pm
First United Methodist Church
16 Court Street
Westfield, MA 01085**

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
Scott Bailey, newsletter editor
50 Woodbridge Ln.
Westfield, MA 01085**