

Portland Chapter Officers 2012-13

Dean:

Ed Larson 685-9023 Larson4662@roadrunner.com

Sub-Dean:

Henry Ahlers 865-3062, h.ahlers@att.net

Secretary

Peter Stickney peterstickney@rsu57.org

Treasurer:

Stephen Garvin 636-3329 sjgarvin@metrocast.net

Directors:

2009-2012 **Stewart Shuster**, 934-9594, sshuster@maine.rr.com 2010-2013, **Shirley Curry** 883-2320 2011-2014, **Jim Strand**, 899-4452, jstrand@maine.rr.com 2012-2015, **Ann Hartzler**, 666-5586, ann.hartzler@gmail.com

Registrar: Paul Schnell 727-6562 prschnell@securespeed.us Placement: John Sullivan 282-0271, jtcsul@earthlink.net Professional Concerns: Ray Cornils 443-9700

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Wines-DeWan 749-0608, newd3@maine.rr.com

Hospitality: Nancy Landsman 934-7158 Chaplain: David Bellville, PhD

THE VOX HUMANA

The newsletter of the Portland, Maine Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

website: www.agoportlandmaine.com

blog: www.agonewengland.blogspot.com



Portland Chapter AGO Final Program of the 2012-2013 Season

Sunday, May 5, 4PM Members Recital and Annual Meeting

First Parish Church, Saco, ME

FROM THE DEAN...

Greetings to everyone! As I write the Dean's Message for this issue of The Vox, I am sitting on the balcony of my daughter and son-in-law's apartment in Downtown Dubai, UAE. I've included a picture of the view which shows Old Town in the foreground and in the background, the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world.

There are no pipe organs here, but Paul Griffiths, the CEO of Dubai International Airport, has a large 3-manual digital organ in his home and there is a 2-manual digital organ at his church. He is an accomplished organist and almost pursued a professional career in music.

At the present time, there are no concert halls or orchestras. Perhaps sometime in the future, Dubai will want to claim title to the largest concert hall organ in the world.

Our AGO chapter has some exciting things to look forward to, also. First, we will meet with the Pineland Chapter of the American Theater Organists Society on April 14th for a joint meeting. Bring along some music that you would like to try on this instrument. It should be a lot of

fun. Second, we will have our Members Recital/Annual Meeting on May 5th at First Parish Church, Saco. Third, we will be hosting our first Pipe Organ Encounter beginning on June 23rd. This event is being organized by Past Dean, John Sullivan, who is doing an outstanding job coordinating all the particulars required to host such an undertaking. Please be willing to assist him in areas where more help is needed. We will keep you informed as to our needs as they arise. Thank you, in advance, for helping us make this a memorable and positive experience for our young organists in attendance.

Attendance at our chapter events is higher than many other chapters in our region. This is a good sign and an affirmation of what we are doing. We want to be effective and we want to be relevant. In order to do this, we need to have your input. We also need you to volunteer to help guide this organization in future years. We have not been able to have an orderly succession of leadership for some time now. It is a sign of the times --- we are all too



busy and circumstances are constantly changing. However, have you noticed that when something really needs to be done, you need to ask a very busy person --- they will get the job completed.

As you may know, my term as Dean comes to an end after the Annual Meeting in May.

It has been a pleasure serving the chapter in various capacities. I first served on the Programming Committee for three years and then served as Secretary for three years.

After that, I served as Sub-Dean for one year and then as Dean for the past two years.

Now, I look forward to serving as Past Dean for the next two years. So, as you might have guessed already, we need to fill some positions.

We need to nominate members to fill the following positions: Dean, Sub-Dean, and one member to the Board of Directors. Would you please call me, email me, send me a note.

or see me at our next chapter meeting, and let me know if you would be willing to serve in any of these positions. This will prevent a Nominating Committee from having to call every member on the list to find candidates. We hope to have a full slate of officers ready to present at the Annual Meeting in May.

In the meantime, enjoy your preparations for Easter. I am off to Jordan and Oman and then back to Dubai. See you at the April Meeting with ATOS!

Best regards, Ed Larson, Dean

CHAPTER NEWS

Jay Zoller, AGO Portland Member announces a new blog post at: http://organthoughtsandcomments.wordpress.com/

Congratulations to Janice Stover, who has just been appointed Music Director at Church on the Cape in Cape Porpoise, Maine.

Congratulations to Terrie Harmon on receiving her AAGO certification.

Congratulations to Delmar Small, composer, and Anthony Antolini, conductor of the Bowdoin Chorus and Mozart Mentors Orchestra, on the world premiere performance of Delmar's "As It Began to Dawn" – an oratorio about the awe and mystery of the Resurrection and Jesus's subsequent appearances to his disciples.

Newsletter Deadline May 15, 2013 for our June issue

We welcome news from all members.

Please send to:

Nancy Wines-DeWan

Newsletter Editor

newd3@maine.rr.com



2012 YOC Student Recitalists

The Young Organist Collaborative SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ORGAN LES-SONS FOR YOUTH IN NEW HAMP-SHIRE, MASS & MAINE

The Young Organist Collaborative encourages and supports young people in learning to play the pipe organ. We are seeking music students, ages 10 - 16, who are interested in studying with a qualified local organist. These lessons will be provided at no cost to first year students.

Requirements:

☐ Applicants should be between the ages of 10 and 16 as of 9/1/13 and have had at least 2 years of piano keyboard study, in addition to any other

instrument you play. We expect that you

read music and can play piano equally in both hands.

- ☐ First year applicants may not be High School seniors.
- ☐ YOC will consider applications from students able to study with organists in or near Portsmouth, Concord and Manchester, NH, as well as Northern
- Massachusetts and Southern Maine.

 ☐ Applications are due on April 22, 2013
- along with a written recommendation by a music teacher.
- ☐ Participate in a kick-off event on May 11, 2013 at 10:30 a.m., which will include a student audition and
- demonstration/explanation of pipe organ mechanics at St. John's Church in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- $\hfill\Box$ Attend 16 lessons with a qualified local organist. The lessons will take place at the organist's church or
- organ studio from September 2013 May 2014.
- □ Participate in an organ recital on May 10, 2014.

The Young Organist Collaborative will:

- ☐ Provide stipends to organ instructors for 16 lessons and masterclass opportunities.
- ☐ Provide Committee members as mentors and to assist students in locating or obtaining practice instruments.

For more information, please contact The Young Organist Collaborative,

P.O. Box 24, Portsmouth, NH 03802 (603) 436 --8283

yoc@stjohnsnh.org

CLASSIFIED:

For interested music historians: eight volumes and one pamphlet of choral pieces. These books were orignally used by the choir at the Deering Memorial United Methodist Church in South Paris, Maine. If interested, please contact Charles Longley at clongley@gmail.com

Organ Music and Books for Sale:

Craig Cramer, from the University of Notre Dame has a large collection of used organ music and books for sale. For more information, contact: Craig Cramer, DMA Professor of Organ University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, Indiana USA 574-631-7836

Surplus Organ/Piano Music:

M. E. Nordstrom has a stack of used organ and piano music for donation of \$1. or whatever you wish to Classical Arts of New England for each handful you'd like, now dba with P. Nordstrom as www.performingartsne.org Call my daughter, Phyllis, at 781-733-5175, for appointment to look at the music.

1902 Tabor Pump Organ for sale. Contact: Antoinette Maas, Isle La Motte, Vt.; 802 928 3480



We invite you to attend the upcoming Regions I and II Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Hartford, Connecticut, from June 30 – July 3, 2013.

The convention promises to be a fantastic event with world-class recitals and concerts, more than 21 widely-varied workshops.

Full information on schedule, artists, workshops and venues can be found at our website: hartfordago2013.org

A link to online registration is also there. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook and like us!

If you have any general questions, we encourage you to contact Convention Coordinator, Jason Charneski, at questions@hartfordago2013.org.

For registration questions, please contact our registrar, Jason Roberts, at registrar@ hartfordago2013.org.



Summer Choir--or "Improvising on a Shoe String" Peter Stickney, D.S.M.

I want to share several thoughts on "Summer Choir" as a tool for recruitment and a positive way to enable congregants to participate in music ministry in a choral setting. When I was first approached several years ago about creating a summer choir, I must admit that I was more than a little reluctant. I called my friends and colleagues in UCCMA, AGO and ACDA. There was little positive

energy around creating such an ensemble. I heard phrases like this, "Let the senior citizens sing once", "Have the men sing one Sunday and women sing one Sunday", and finally "Refuse to do it".

After much prayer and soul-searching I decided that I would yield to the music and arts committee suggestion. However, we would have guidelines. Further, if the idea fell flat its head would not be raised for a good long time. We added more prayer and asked for some guidance. The following guidelines (not rules) immerged and have worked for me. I am sharing them with you in hopes that your music program will benefit.

First of all: ALL singers of ALL ages are welcome to participate in summer choir. The result has created an intergenerational group of singers with various sundry skills. It really is fun to have an energetic 5 year old making music with our wonderful 90 year old bass.

Second of all: Come one Sunday or come all Sundays. Summer choir has worked for me the Sunday after the fourth of July through labor day. The long term commitment is omitted and people feel so very happy to come and sing. The only requirement for singing is be present at 9:15 am to learn the song and how we are going to present it for the 10am liturgy.

Third: NO CHOIR ROBES or formality--we put the choral anthem towards the beginning of the service. After singing the choir disperses into the congregation. This has worked wonderfully for us. Notably, because very few want to wear a hot choir robe in the good old summer time, and many people want to sit with their families rather that the choir loft during worship.

The most important part of success of a pick-up summer choir is the adaptability of the music and the creativity of the music director. This minister of music works diligently to match choral literature with the lectionary reading or sermon title of the day. The literature itself is generally gleaned from simple choral arrangements and from the rich plethora of hymns that

is part of our collective tradition. Often times I will take a hymn that will fit with the day and create a mini anthem out of it.

Initially I create an introduction, generally borrowed from my organ literature. Next, I work to add some type of pitched instrument for a recorder player to play the alto up an octave or percussion instrument for a non-verbal child or very young child who cannot read. Frequently I incorporate three or four hand-bells or hand-chimes to add a flourish to part of a refrain or paint the text. Please be aware, you can plan until the cows come home, however, your recipe for the anthem depends on the souls who show up. Sometimes we have all unison, sometimes six part harmony. In addition, if I see that we have a singer capable of a solo I have a solo verse with the choir humming under them. Frequently we do the gender verse thing with men on a certain verse and women on another. Parts are optional--My goal is excellent intonation and sometimes that means that almost everyone sings unison. I also incorporate a tiny little postludium in the same key as the singers slip into the congregation to sit with their family. All-in-all, the anthem is tailored to the singers who come to offer there talents and by what the music director is able to co-create with them.

It is my hope that the gift of music offered by a prayerful intergenerational ensemble is worthy and acceptable to our creator. I highly recommend stepping out of the traditional setting of full choir, full choir rehearsal, choir rules and regulations and step into what might be dubbed "improvising on a shoe-string". Make sure that YOU as the leader have done your homework, have mastery of the literature and are willing to be flexible. If you are well prepared and skillful in your leadership, your singers will follow you! Most importantly bathe the situation in your most powerful magic/medicine/prayer, and have fun!

ps-bet you will get one or two new committed members from this endeavor!

COMING SOON TO PORTLAND, MAINE!

The Portland AGO Chapter will be the sponsor of the 2013 -Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) June 23-28, 2013

??Frequently Asked Questions ??

What is a POE?

The POE (Pipe Organ Encounter) is designed for teenagers, ages 13-18, who have achieved an intermediate level of keyboard proficiency. Previous organ study is not required. Special consideration with regards to age and training may be allowed by the POE Committee on an individual basis.

What is the student schedule?

Students will benefit from a daily private lesson with practice time on the same instrument, as well as classes and workshops in such areas as organ registration, service playing, technique, theory and practice strategies. The week will also include recitals, a master class, one or more field trips, and a concluding student recital.

Who are the faculty?

The Portland AGO chapter boasts an extraordinary number of professional church musicians, recitalists, composers and teachers, with an unusual wealth of experience in all levels of instruction from beginners through graduate level students.

Do we need help from local chapter members? -----You bet!

Numerous chapter members have already stepped forward to help with the work. Would you consider joining us, too?

At the end of this article you will find

a few volunteer positions which need to be filled as soon as possible. Don't wait to be called!

The AGO National Statement

Pipe Organ Encounters is an educational outreach program of the American Guild of Organists. Major funding for Pipe Organ Encounters is provided by the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America.

AGO scholarships are available for students who truly require financial assistance. For information and application forms please visit:

www.agohq.org at Pipe Organ Encounters.

Attending students will be based at the Maine College of Art on Congress Street in Portland. Registrations will be limited to 20.

POE -Portland, Maine Planning Committee:

John Sullivan, POE Director Harold Stover Elsa Geskus Sally Reynolds Peter Plumb Paul Schnell

For more information contact, John Sullivan, POE Director, or any committee member.

POE UPDATE

As of today, we have eleven students registered, and they hail from right in our own back yard and from as far away as Saratoga, NY and metro Jersey. Some are virtual beginners and some have played some pretty impressive pieces for teenagers. Harold Stover has the faculty assembled and we are planning some great things. In addition to members of our own

chapter, Diane Meredith Belcher will be joining us, and giving a workshop on hymn playing, as well as participating in the Monday evening (June 24) faculty recital. Katelyn Emerson will present a rising star recital on Wednesday evening (both events at St. Luke's Cathedral), and there will be a worship service on Tuesday at the State Street Methodist Church. All events at 7:00 PM. Please feel free to join us at these events—it will mean a lot to the kids to see that this is a vibrant chapter.

ALSO, please consider joining us on Friday morning at 10:00 AM for the student recital, probably at both State Street and St. Luke's.

We are also all set for field trips to David Wallace's workshop, sponsored by the Wallace company; an afternoon in Brunswick; and an afternoon/evening at Funtown. We can always use volunteers to chaperone and we can always use contributions.

Many thanks to the generous donors who have underwritten full tuition for students.

Thank you for whatever form your support takes.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The First Baptist Church in Portland is seeking an organist for the 8:45 Sunday morning worship service, beginning June 1. Responsibilities include prelude, postlude and playing for a 15-minute congregational hymn-singing time (traditional hymns, gospel hymns and praise songs) with the church pianist and a worship leader. Contact Janice Stover: 603-978-3910 or pianojanice@aol.com <mailto:pianojanice@aol.com

Choir Director/Organist First Congregational Church, Bridgton,

ME, seeks leadership for our dynamic choir of 15-20 members. Choir Director position does not require accompaniment of choir, but piano/organ playing ability is desirable. Organist and Choir director positions may be separated depending on applicant abilities. Organist with piano experience preferred. Job Descriptions are available at http://www.bridgtonucc.org/musicsearch. Send resume detailing experience and education, with a cover letter indicating music philosophy to musicsearch@bridgtonucc.org.

Professional choir singers wanted for summer Episcopal Chapel for five bi-weekly services beginning June 30, 2013. The choir of St. Peter's-By-TheSea, Cape Neddick, Maine (forty five minutes from Portland) meets Sunday mornings only. Generous stipend. For more information, or appointment for audition, please call: Henry Hokans, 207-646-4030

Choir Director/Organist- A vibrant, growing, multi-generational congregation seeks a creative choir director/organist to reinvigorate our music ministry. We are searching for a person who will collaboratively design the musical content for worship and expand the choral program. Submit resumés and/or make inquiries to: revjmg@comcast.net or The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Gallagher, First Congregational Church of Kittery, UCC, 23 Pepperrell Road, Kittery Point, Maine, 03905: 207-439-0650

Organist/Choir Director- The Old First Church in Bennington, Vermont, The church has a 1965 Wicks pipe organ and a piano. This part-time position offers a competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.FMI, contact Nancy Andrews at (802) 447-1223 or office@oldfirst.comcastbiz.net. There is the potential for a coordinating position as pianist (winter heating season) and organist (non-heating season) at First Baptist Church, 601 Main Street, Bennington,

Vermont, www.fbcbennington.org. While each church conducts its own personnel search, it has often been the case in the past that one candidate is able to fill both positions.

Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church in Topsham, Maine. Part-time organist (2 or 3 Sundays a month) Send resume to: Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church, PO Box 211, Topsham, ME 04086, or email to either church@mcpcmaine.net (subject line ATTN: Personnel Committee) or recook@maine.rr.com

The Oratorio Chorale, an auditioned group of approximately 40 singers in Mid-Coast Maine seeks a conductor to provide direction, artistic vision, inspiration adnd leadership. The group performs music ranging from the Renaissance to the 21st century, sometimes accompanied by orchestra. This part-time position will begin in the summer of 2014. Applications accepted until January 15, 2013. Visit www.oratorio-choraleorg/search for more information.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Rockland is seeking an Organist/Choir Director. For more information on position requirements and salary please contact the Rev. James Bocchino at 207-594-8191 or rector@stpetersrockland.org.

For more information about any of these positions contact

John Sullivan 282-0271 jtcsul@earthlink.net

The AGO Portland Chapter recommends the following fees for Substitute Organists:

One service -(Organist or Organist/Choir Director) \$150.00 - \$300.00

A second service essentially the same as the first service 50% of first service fee

Rehearsal \$60.00 - \$100.00 (1 ½ hours maximum)

Additional rehearsals with soloists, choir or instrumentalists \$30.00 -\$100.00/hour, depending on the difficulty of music

Mileage- 55 cents/mile
if visits to church for practice, rehearsal, service exceed 25 miles/round trip.

Substitute Organists The organists listed are members of the

The organists listed are members of the Portland Chapter of the AGO and have indicated a desire to do substitute work. We have provided their contact information, but we encourage you to speak to them directly regarding the suitability of their qualifications for your particular need.

Despina Chatis Clark 603-743-6660

Bob Cordier available April - December cell: 205-0445.

Janet O. Davis jand428@comcast.net 207-729-4395

Peter Dickson 207-865-3950

Katelyn Emerson (summer) katelyn.emerson@gmail.com

Sylvia Infantine tinfanti@maine.rr.com 207-774-8078

Leela Koilpillai Lkoilpilllai@kw.com Home: 207-899-2905 Cell: 207-329-4107

Mary Elizabeth Nordstrom Free lance writer, church musician 207-985-0175 Kennebunk, ME enordstrom@roadrunner.com

Rich Pitre rpitre@maine.rr.com 207 807 1859

Peter Plumb pplumb@mpmlaw.com 207-772-2680

Harold Stover harold@haroldstover.com

John Sullivan, FAGO weddings/funerals, weekday services jtcsul@earthlink.net 207-282-0271

Jim Swist jimswist@gmail.com 781-799-0286

COMING SOON

Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 PM & Friday, May 3 at 7:30 PM at Studzinski Recital Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 PM at the Franco-American Heritage Center, Lewiston Bowdoin Chorus and Mozart Mentors Orchestra, conducted by Anthony Antolini, will present the world premiere performance of Delmar Dustin Small's As It Began to Dawn – an oratorio about the awe and mystery of the morning of the Resurrection and Jesus's subsequent appearances to his disciples. Open to the public; admission free of charge; no tickets or reservations; seating is limited.

Saturday evening, May 4 @ 7:00 PM. First Parish Congregational Church Rt. 1-A, York. John Sullivan will perform a benefit organ concert for the upcoming Portland AGO Pipe Organ Encounter: Works by Bach, Paine, Utterback, Maxwell, Stover.

E. Power Biggs Fellowship

This year's E. Power Biggs Fellows will attend the OHS 58th National Convention in Vermont, June 24–29. The Fellowship includes a two-year membership in the OHS. FMI: http://pr.ak.vresp.com/42a09a378/www.organsociety.org/vr/biggs/biggs-head.jpg ,

June 30 – July 3,Regions I and II Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Hartford, Connecticut. FMI on schedule, artists, workshops and venues can be found at our website: hartfordago2013.org

For general questions, contact Convention Coordinator, Jason Charneski, at questions@hartfordago2013.org.

For registration questions, please contact our registrar, Jason Roberts, at registrar@hartfordago2013.org.

May 11 and June 2: Renaissance Voice, directed by Harold Stover presents: Vive La France! French choral works from the 14th to the 21st Centuries including Debussy's Trois Chansons, Jannequin's Le Chant des Oiseaux, and more. Saturday, May 11, 8:00 PM,

Williston-Immanuel United Church, 156 High Street, Portland. Tickets are \$15 at the door (\$5 students with ID) \$12 online until May 10 at www.renaissancevoices.net. Tickets may also be purchased in advance at: Longfellow Books in Portland, Starbird Music in Portland, The Book Review in Falmouth.

Sunday, June 2, 6:30 PM, The Fifth Maine Museum, 45 Seashore Avenue, Peaks Island, ME 04108. http://www.fifthmainemuseum.org Tickets available at the door.

June 24-29, Organ Historical Society Convention, , Vermont. FMI: http://www.organsociety.org/2013/

July 21, 7pm, Trinity Summer Concert Series: Terrie Harman, Mark Thallander, organists, Trinity Episcopal Church, 546 York Street, York Harbor, (207) 363-5095

August 9, 7pm, Festive Duet Program (Albert Melton, Randall Mullin, Mark Thallander, organists; Lars Gjerde, Darlene Matrone, pianists; Karol Bennett, Scott Perkins, Chris Thompson, vocalists; DaPonte String Quartet – Ferdinand Liva, Lydia Forbes, vioinists; Kirsten Monke, violist; Myles Jordon, cellist; Two Piano Concerto in C Minor, J. S. Bach - The Rev. Thomas R. Matrone, conductor), Cathedral Church of Saint Luke, 143 State Street, Portland, (207) 772-5434

August 10, 7pm, Encore Music Creations (Lars Gjerde, organist and pianist; Brett Alan Judson, organist; Scott Perkins, vocalist and saxophonist), Cathedral Church of Saint Luke, 143 State Street, Portland, (207) 772-5434

August 11, 7pm, Annual New England Choral Festival: "Celebration of Life and Faith" (Festival Choir - The Rev. Thomas R. Matrone, Albert Melton, conductors; Brett Alan Judson, Mark Thallander, organists; Darlene Matrone, Lars Gjerde, pianists; Scott Perkins, Chris Thompson, vocalists; Alex Russell, violinist), Cathedral Church of Saint Luke, 143 State Street, Portland, (207) 772-5434

August 24, 7pm, Paris Summer Concert Series: "Triumphant Tunes and Toccatas" (Glenda Winkle-Morrow, pianist; Mark Thallander, organist), First Baptist Church, Paris Hill Road, Paris, (207) 743-5198

August 25, 6pm, Annual Summer Keyboard Concert: "Triumphant Tunes and Toccatas" (Glenda Winkle-Morrow, pianist; Mark Thallander, organist; Kathleen Haley, vocalist), Court Street Baptist Church, 129 Court Street, Auburn, (207) 784-6661



KOTZSCHMAR KAUSE BOOK & YARD SALE

Spring is here so clean out those closets, basements and garages and donate your items to FOKO for our KOTZSCHMAR KAUSE BOOK & YARD SALE to benefit our educational projects and programs. We'll even pick-up the large, heavy items and help you transport other smaller items! Art work, antiques, books, music, CD's, jewelry, furniture, children's toys, cooking items, craft items, garden supplies, holiday items, tools, lamps, collectibles and gently used small appliances. Please NO clothing, exercise equipment or technology items. CALL 207.553.4363 or 207.571.9859 for more information.

WHAT: KOTZSCHMAR KAUSE BOOK & YARD SALE PREVIEW

WHEN: FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 5-8 PM, \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Wine and hors d'oeuvres, 10% off purchases of \$100 or more. Tickets on sale NOW! Call 207.553.4363.

WHERE: MERRILL AUDITORIUM REHEARSAL HALL, Myrtle St. Portland

SALE DATES:

Saturday, JUNE 22, 9-4, Sunday, JUNE 23, 9-NOON.