

PIPINGs - April 2019 Edition

Louise Munding, Dean
Jeremy Bruns, Sub-Dean



From the Dean

On March 23rd we celebrated JS Bach in what has become a lovely BAGO tradition at First Lutheran. There were concerts starting at 8 am. The concluding event was a service of Vespers at 5 pm. Thanks to Jonathan Wessler for coordinating this event. I was also at the parallel event in Worcester at Trinity Lutheran. (It was a rewarding day). The Worcago Chapter (Mark Mummert, Dean; Lois Toepfner, Sub Dean) started their own day-long Bach event with proceeds going to several local charities.

It was gratifying to know that we can support concurrent Bach events. Both venues included enthusiastic performers and audiences. Each chapter created a large event to celebrate JS Bach because there is enough music from this one man to keep our events going year after year. The music Bach created more than three centuries ago still has the power to transfix and transform people. What a gift to us all.

On March 16th we hosted the first stage of the **Regional Competition for Young Organists** (RYCO), the biannual organ competition for organists under the age of 22. The first stage is at the local level and the winner proceeds to the Regional convention to compete there. This year Jack Russell was our coordinator along with David Baker. The competition was held at Marsh Chapel with judges Jeremy Bruns, Colin Lynch and Carolyn Skelton. Our two competitors were Matthew Dion and Marshall Joos. The winner was Marshall Joos who will compete at the 2019 Regional convention in Buffalo, NY. Congratulations to both competitors. The RYCO is an offshoot of the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP) which is open to organists 22 and over. Since 2002 Michael Quimby has supported the RYCO competitions and for that reason the RYCO is sometimes referred to as the Quimby competition.

With Holy Week and Easter around the corner, I wish you all a season of music made at the deepest level. Whether you are an organist, a singer, an enthusiast or all of the above, this journey towards light is different each year even when we follow the same footsteps.

Best to you all.

LM

With churches closing, the issue of what to do with the sometimes orphan organs has come to the attention of BAGO. For that reason the Executive committee wants to vote on an addition to the **Operating Procedures** to reestablish the Organ Advisory Committee. This message is to inform you, the members of BAGO, about this change in the Operating Procedures. (Thanks in advance to Claire DeCusati and David Baker for their assistance in this matter)

Why we need to reinstate the Organ Advisory Committee:

In the past several months, the Executive Committee has been approached regarding advice on the disposition of organs in the Boston Chapter area. For many years, our Chapter had an Organ Advisory Committee. Demand for services had ceased when our Operating Procedures were revised in 2018. Based on new demand, the Executive Committee now recommends that the Organ Advisory Committee be reinstated.

The Executive Committee recommends the following text be added to our Operating Procedures. This text has been reviewed and approved by a Chapter member, who is also a practicing lawyer:

Organ Advisory Committee

The Organ Advisory Committee shall be responsible for consulting with church and synagogue musicians, clergy, and staff on the acquisition of, disposition of, and/or modifications to an organ in a worship or musical space. The Chair of the committee shall be appointed by the Dean with Executive Committee approval. The Chair shall then convene a committee, versed in the technical knowledge required for the requested consultation. Personal contact with the committee shall be made through the committee chair. The committee shall make recommendations, as appropriate, to the organization that requested the consultation. In the

case of removal of an organ, the committee shall make contact with other appropriate organizations to relocate the instrument, including listing on the Chapter website. A consulting fee shall be charged for services, appropriate to the scope of services provided. The chair is responsible for ensuring that the consulting fee is sent to the Treasurer for deposit in Chapter accounts.

If you have any comments or questions about this addition, please contact Claire DeCusati at decusati@verizon.net

Coming up: **The Annual Meeting** is set for Monday, May 13 that 6:00 pm at Trinitarian Congregational Church in Concord. We will have a Members' Recital followed by dinner (catered by our own Daryl Bichel) and the meeting. Sub Dean Jeremy Bruns will send out more information next week. In the meantime, look for the signup in your inbox. We need an accurate count for the dinner. Please come! Bring friends!

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