

Boston Chapter, American Guild of Organists

NEWSLETTER

Volume XXI, Number 5 www.bostonago.com January 2012

Concert Calendar Changes Part 3

CLIP AND SAVE THIS ARTICLE!

This is the last in the series of articles on the changing of our Concert Calendar Listings.

You will remember that the last concert listings to be printed in the Newsletter will be with the February 2012 issue. Beginning in March, all concert calendar entries will be on our website. The great news is that you can set up a customized profile so that the website automatically notifies you of concerts that may be of interest!

A personal profile Subscription allows you to be notified via a periodical e-mail containing concert listings that <u>you</u> want to know about. The frequency of the e-mails can be weekly or monthly, or can be at the time the event is posted (be the first to know about it!). You choose which concerts you want listed in your notification e-mail by filling in the profile information on the website to set the filtering (selection) criteria you want. Upcoming concerts that match your criteria are listed in the e-mails sent to you. You can define multiple profiles in order to request different combinations of concerts - one e-mail will be sent for each profile. If no concerts match in a given period, no notification e-mail is sent. Here are some example profile possibilities:

- Notify me weekly for any organ concerts in Region I that occur during just the upcoming week.
- Send me a **monthly** listing of **choral** concerts within **50 miles of 01608**.
- Send me weekly reminders on Wednesdays for organ concerts in MA that are HC accessible

The subscription process is very easy – just fill out the form on the website.

- 1. First go to http://www.bostonago.org/
- 2. Click on the "INFO" tab near the top of the homepage. In the drop down box, click on "Calendar"
- 3. Scroll to the bottom of the page, and click on "Subscribe to calendar"

You'll be taken to the page with the form to fill out. Remember, you can create multiple profiles for yourself based on your areas of interest.

Also, this is calendar is shared with other AGO chapters, listing events in other cities (like Worcester, MA and Hartford, CT). If you live or travel to those areas, you might want a unique profile for those events.

Some final musings:

- Remember to post your own concert entries. You care the most about your publicity, and it's important to keep other members informed of your concerts.
- 2. The last Concert entries to be published in the Newsletter will be in the February edition. So, the deadline for submission is January for February publication.
- 3. Please refer to the November Newsletter for more information on how to post your concert listings.

Questions? On the webpage, under the "Contacts" tab, you may enter a question addressed to "General". It will be forwarded to the correct contact, and you'll receive a response back.

—Claire DeCusati decusati@verizon.net

Nominating Committee Formed

The Chapter Election Nominating Committee for 2012 will be David Tierney (chair), Barbara Owen, Charlene Higbe.



Dean's Message

In this month named for the god Janus, I turn one face toward 2012 and the other back to 1912. A century ago...

- The Kotzschmar Memorial Organ in Portland, Maine was dedicated.
- "In the Garden" and "The Old Rugged Cross" were written.
- Rudolph Wurlitzer retired at age 81, but his sons carried on the family business.
- Gustav Malher died at age 50, and his 9th Symphony was premiered in Vienna.
- Virgil Fox was born, as were Sir Georg Solti, John Cage, Alfred Deller, Gene Kelly, and my own grandparents.
- Louis Vierne completed his Third Symphony for organ.
- Maurice Ravel's "Daphis & Chlöe", starring ballet legend Nijinsky, had its first performance.

Who and what will 2012 bring? What will we bring to 2012?

In the words of columnist Ellen Goodman, "We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives... not looking for flaws, but for potential."

In this new year, may we take a moment to cherish our potential for bringing moments of beauty, acts of kindness, and words of hope into our own corners of the world.

Peace.

-Vickie Wagner, Dean

Executive Committee Meetings

Tuesdays at United Parish, 210 Harvard St., Brookline (near Coolidge Corner) 7-9 pm Jan 24 March 6 June 5

Executive committee meetings are open to all Chapter members.

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Executive Committee

Kathleen Adams, R. Harrison Kelton, Christian Lane, Nadia Stevens, Susan DeSelms, Elisabeth (Buffy) Gray, Carole Lawton, David Tierney Bryan Ashley, Christine Hogan Harry Huff, Brandon Santini January 2012 PAGE 3

Professional Development Programs

Round Table Discussions

Come for refreshments and interaction in informal settings. Bring questions, concerns, advice. Bring friends, colleagues, parishioners, clergy, non-AGO members. Snow dates will be announced if needed by e-mail and on www.bostonago.org.

January 10, Tuesday, 7pm: Join Executive Committee member Christine Hogan and professional development committee chair Charlene Higbe to find out "What Am I Worth?" The topic will consider recommended standards for organists' treatment and compensation. Plymouth Congregational Church, 582 Pleasant Street (Route 60), Belmont. Directions: www.plymouthchurch.net/for-visitors

January 22, Sunday, 1:30pm: Celebrate Chinese New Year and Year of the Dragon with a buffet lunch (\$19.50) and shop talk led by Dean Vickie Wagner at Changsho Restaurant, 1712 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, between Harvard & Porter Squares. Free parking across Mass. Ave. Bus lines #77, Arlington Heights/Harvard Sq.; #83, Rindge Ave./Porter Sq.; #96, Medford Sq./Harvard Sq. Reserve a place through Vickie by Friday, Jan. 20, if possible: vwag@aol.com or 617-522-0510.

January 23, Monday, 7pm: Join Sub-Dean Dan McKinley, Mark Dirksen, Diane Meredith Belcher, Frances Burmeister and other colleagues to discuss topics related to organ and sacred music. Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, 188 Elliott Street (Rte 62, 1 mile southeast of Rte 128), Danvers. Plenty of parking available at the church. Directions: www.ctr-anglican.org/welcome/directions.html. Commuter rail: take the Newburyport/Rockport Line to Beverly; Dan will arrange to pick you up at the station if you contact him in advance: dan.mckinley@ctr-anglican.org, 978-412-8174, 978-774-3163 x353.

Employment Issues

February 6, Monday, 7:00-8:15pm. Attorney Victoria Steinberg (law firm Collora LLP, specialist in civil & business litigation and employment law) will speak on employment law, best practices for church-synagogue musicians, legal recourse. She will welcome questions and comments. Free admission. (Snow date: February 13) Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Avenue. Specific conference room number will be posted at the hotel. Paid parking is available at various Back Bay locations. Short walk to hotel from nearby public transportation: Green Line (B, C, D, E) to Copley or Prudential (E); Orange Line to Back Bay; southwest region commuter rail trains to Back Bay.

Merrimack Valley AGO Mini-Convention

The MVAGO 14th Mini-Convention is scheduled for February 25, so put the date on your 2012 calendars now! And tell your students and friends in other chapters too. In the same format as last year's, and in the same place, First Calvary Baptist in North Andover, this will be a very varied program, with something for everybody. After the usual anthem readings, Cheryl Duerr, our Region I Councillor, will lead off to tell us about the AGO Service Playing exam, what it involves and how it can help us to sharpen our skills. Then, our well-known Chapter members and recitalists, John and Carolyn Skelton, will introduce us to some accessible duet repertoire, for both organ four hands (and feet) and organ and piano. After lunch, Richard Bunbury, in a return requested by some of our members, will give us some proven pointers for recruiting and energizing children's and youth choirs. For the final session, we are fortunate to have noted recitalist Joan Lippincott reprise her hymn-playing master-class, highly praised by attendees of the Worcester and Boston Chapters. Flyers and registration forms will be available after Christmas.

Conact person: Barbara Owen, owenbar@juno.com

What Happens Then?

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist. It's true. The old year has indeed passed away, both the good and bad parts together. What will you make of the new year? Even if you do nothing to change anything from last year, it will be different in many ways. People will come and go from your life, global and local news will change, and joys and sorrows will play a large part. The passing of a year is significant, not only for what it contained, but for what lies ahead.

As you move into 2012, pay attention to how the year is taking shape. What choices do you need to make regarding music, health, employment, relationships, finances? You may not have complete control of these areas, but how you approach every choice will have an impact on your life.

The AGO mission statement includes the goal "... to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members." There are amazing opportunities offered by our Chapter to learn, discuss, and promote the music with which we fill our lives. Stretch your boundaries this year, whether by attending more programs, volunteering for the 2014 Convention, or saying "yes" to a nomination for BAGO leadership.

Then, when December rolls around again, *das alte Jahr* will surprise you with its goodness.

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BOSTON/AGO CONCERT CALENDAR

Saturday, December 31

5:00 pm

Choir of the Church of the Advent (Dwyer, *dir*; Wood, *dir/org*):
Lessons & Carols for Christmastide:
Darke, Dove, Poulenc, Lassus,
Lukaszewski, Ord, Leighton, Tallis,
Weelkes, Wilcox, Whitacre.
Church of the Advent,
30 Brimmer St, Boston.
617-523-2377 x141 Donation

10:00 pm

Richard Clark, Janet Hunt,
Peter Krasinsky, organ:
BAGO "First Night"
Organ Recital.
Arlington St Church,
Arlington & Boylston Sts, Boston.
www.firstnight.org
1st Night Button (\$18)

Tuesday, January 3, 2012 12:15 pm

Trium Vocal Ensemble:
"Love Came Down":
Johnson, Willaert, Cornysh, Holst.
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston.
617-227-2155 Donation \$3 kings-chapel.org

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Youth pro Musica (Barney/ Hagar-McKee, *dirs*) Auditions. First Unitarian Society in Newton, 1326 Washington St, West Newton MA. 617-666-6087 youthpromusica.org

Friday, January 6 12:15 pm

Amanda Mole, organ.
Trinity Church,
206 Clarendon St, Boston.
617-536-0944 Don \$5

6:30 pm

Choir of the Church of the Advent (Dwyer & Wood, *dir/org*):
Solemn Mass of the Epiphany:
Victoria, Lassus, Dove, Monk.
Church of the Advent,
30 Brimmer St, Boston.
617-523-2377 x141 Donation theadventboston.org

Saturday, January 7

3:00 pm

Ensemble 44: "Mary, Madonna, Heavenly Queen": Hildegard of Bingen, Francesca Caccini; Elizabethan dance music, divisions on *Greensleeves*. Steinert Building, 162 Boylston St, Boston.

7:00 pm

8:00 pm

Synthia Sture, piano; cello. St Paul's Episcopal Church, 27 Washington St, Malden MA. 781-324-9544 \$12 online/\$15 door firebrandconcertseries.com

Sunday, January 8 3:00 pm

St Paul Parish Adult Choir, (Wessler, *dir*; Pattavina, *org*): Lessons & Carols for the Feast of the Epiphany. St Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Sts, Cambridge. 617-491-8400 Free

3:00 pm

Ensemble 44:
See Saturday, January 7 at 3:00 pm.
Loring Greenough House,
Jamaica Plain, MA.

Monday, January 9

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Youth pro Musica Auditions. See Tuesday, January 3 at 6:00 pm.

Tuesday, January 10 12:15 pm

Solar Winds Quintet:
Coleman, Parker, Turrin.
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston.
617-227-2155 Donation \$3 \(\bar{\bar{k}} \) \(\frac{\text{kings-chapel.org}}{\text{chapel.org}} \)

Friday, January 13

12:15 pm

Lee Ridgway, organ.
Trinity Church,
206 Clarendon St, Boston.
617-536-0944 Don \$5

Tuesday, January 17 12:15 pm

George Sargeant, organ:
Works based on spirituals by
Hailstork, Hurd, Behnke.
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston.
617-227-2155 Donation \$3 kings-chapel.org

Friday, January 20 12:15 pm

Stuart Forster, organ.
Trinity Church,
206 Clarendon St, Boston.
617-536-0944 Don \$5

Saturday, January 21

2:00 pm

Vox Lucens (Lane, *dir*): Tomás Luis de Victoria Music for Christmas & Epiphany. Church of Our Savior, 21 Marathon St, Arlington MA. 978-897-5372 Donation

Sunday, January 22

Woosug Kang, organ:

4:30 pm

Prelude Recital:
Tournemire, Widor, Mews, Howells.
5:00 pm Choir of the Church of the
Advent (Dwyer, dir; Wood, dir/org):
Solemn Evensong & Benediction:
Byrd. Church of the Advent,
30 Brimmer St, Boston.
617-523-2377 x141 Donation

5:00 pm

A Baltic Cruise:
Music from Sweden, Finland,
Estonia, Latvia, Poland:
Pärt, Kreek, Sisask, Lindberg,
Sawa, Mäntyjärvi.
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston.
617-227-2155 Don \$12/10

King's Chapel Choir (Christensen, dir):

Tuesday, January 24

12:15 pm

Jodi Hagen, violin;
Heinrich Christensen, organ:
Vivaldi "Winter"; Bach, Rheinberger.
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston.
617-227-2155 Donation \$3 kings-chapel.org

Friday, January 27 12:15 pm

Nathanial Gumbs, organ. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St, Boston. 617-536-0944 Don \$5

8:00 pm

Pamela Dellal, mezzosoprano; El Dorado Ensemble; Wendy Gillespie, violas da gamba: Music from the Courts of Henry VIII & Elisabeth I: Ferrabosco I, van Wilder, Byrd, Parsons, others. Lindsay Chapel, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St, Cambridge. 617-776-0692 \$22/17

Saturday, January 28

8:00 pm

Exsultemus: Music for Voices & Brass from Italy & Germany. University Lutheran Church, 66 Winthrop St, Cambridge. 857-998-0219 \$35,25,15 -\$5 sts,srs exsultemus.org

Sunday, January 29

1:30 pm

James Liu, baritone;
Mark Whitlock, piano: Schumann.
First Church in Boston,
66 Marlborough St, Boston.
617-267-6730 Donation
firstchurchbostonmusic.org

3:00 pm

El Dorado Ensemble.

See Friday, January 27 at 8:00 pm.

Somerville Museum,

Central St at Westwood Rd,

Somerville MA. 617-666-9810

\$17/12 sts, srs, Museum members

3:00 pm

Neil Cockburn, organ. College of the Holy Cross, St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, One College Street, Worcester MA. 508-793-2296 Free

3:00 pm

Exsultemus: Music for Voices & Brass from Italy & Germany. First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley St, Boston. 857-998-0219 \$35,25,15 -\$5 sts,srs exsultemus.org

3:00 pm

Brian Jones, organ. St Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Sts, Cambridge. 617-491-8400 Donation

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3:30 pm

George Li, piano. Meetinghouse of the First Universalist Society in Franklin, 262 Chestnut St, Franklin MA. 508-520-9238 \$18/12(60+) & \$7(13-19), music sts & under 13 free liveartsinfo@gmail.com

4:00 pm

Harvard University Choir, Soloists, Orchestra. World premiere of John Austin church opera Heloise & Abelard. Memorial Church, One Harvard Yard, Cambridge. 617-495-8597 Donation memorialchurch.harvard.edu

4:00 pm

Steven Young, organ: Bach, Bruhn, Böhm, Mendelssohn, Wadsworth. Chapel of Mary, Stonehill College. 508-565-1487 Donation **5**

Tuesday, January 31 12:15 pm

Carson Cooman, organ: Asplund, Bell, Bédard, Pinkham. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston. 617-227-2155 Donation \$3 🗔 kings-chapel.org

Friday, February 3 12:15 pm

Harold Stover, organ. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St. Boston. 617-536-0944 Don \$5 🗔

Sunday, February 5 4:00 pm

Christ Church Evensong Choir

(Forster, dir/org): Choral Evensong: Hassler, Leighton, Mozart, Holst, Gibbons. Christ Church, Zero Garden St, Cambridge. 617-876-0200 Donation 🗟 ccambridge.org

Friday, February 10 12:15 pm

Michael Smith, organ. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St, Boston. 617-536-0944 Don \$5 🗔

8:00 pm

Schola Cantorum of Boston (Jodry, dir); Sacred motets & secular chansons:

di Lasso, de Rore, others. Church of St John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin St, Boston. 401-274-5073 \$25/20/7 ScholaCantorumBoston.com

Saturday, February 11 8:00 pm

Schola Cantorum. See Friday, November 18 at 8:00 pm. Cathedral of St John, 271 N Main St, Providence RI.

Friday, February 17 12:15 pm

Anthony Hammond, organ. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St, Boston. 617-536-0944 Don \$5

Sunday, February 19 3:00 pm

Seraphim Singers (J Lester, dir); H Christensen & G Goda, organ: La variété française: Music for 2 organs & choir: Vierne, Langlais, Dupré, Messiaen. Mission Church, 1545 Tremont St. Boston. 617-926-0126 \$20/15 🔊

3:00 pm

Mark Dwyer, organ. St Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Sts, Cambridge. 617-491-8400 Donation 5

5:00 pm

Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello; Heinrich Christensen, organ: Dupré, Pinkham, Lisa Bielawa, Steven Laven, Niels la Cour. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston. 617-227-2155 Don \$12/10 🗔

Wednesday, February 22

6:30 pm

Choir of the Church of the Advent (Dwyer, *dir;* Wood, *dir/org*): Solemn Liturgy of Ash Wednesday: Byrd, Purcell, Allegri; plainsong. Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St, Boston. 617-523-2377 x141 Donation 5

Friday, February 24 12:15 pm

George Sargeant, organ. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St, Boston. 617-536-0944 Don \$5 🗔

Sunday, February 26

3:00 pm

John Grew, organ. College of the Holy Cross, St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, One College Street, Worcester MA. 508-793-2296 Free 🗔

3:00 pm

Richard Clark, organ. St Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Sts, Cambridge. 617-491-8400 Donation 🗔

St Thomas Choir School Open House

The Choir School will host an Open House for musicians, clergy and families on Sunday, February 19th. As you may know, boys in the Choir School come from across the United States and we would welcome anyone from the area who may enjoy a visit. For more information, contact:

Ruth S. Cobb Director of Admissions & Alumni Relations Saint Thomas Choir School 202 West 58th Street; New York, NY 10019 212-247-3311, Ext. 304 www.choirschool.org

Choral Score Added to Couperin Mass Movement

BAGO member Paul Cienniwa's SATB choral edition of the first Kyrie from François Couperin's Messe pour les Couvents has been released by Thorpe Music Publishing Company. Based on the solo organ work, the editor has added the words of the "Kyrie" to Couperin's contrapuntal organ writing. All of Couperin's original notes are maintained in the choral parts, and the keyboard reduction is Couperin's original organ composition. This practical and versatile edition provides several performance options that include chorus alone, or organ alone, or organ and chorus together, or organ followed by chorus, etc. To request a sample copy, e-mail Paul: pcienniwa@gmail.com.

Youth pro Musica News

YpM January Auditions for 2012 Spring programs

Youth pro Musica invites boys (changed and unchanged voices) and girls ages 8 to 18 to audition for its 2012 Spring season. YpM offers three choral programs for young singers:

- Training Chorus: Girls and boys, approximately grades 3 5 Rehearsal: Tuesday, 4:30 - 5:30 pm
- Repertory Chorus: Girls and boys with unchanged voices, approximately grades 5 - 8
 Rehearsal: Tuesday, 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- High School Chorale: Girls grades 9 12, boys with changed voices through grade 12 Rehearsal: Tuesday, 7:45 - 9:15 pm

Auditions are by appointment with our Artistic Director, Robert Barney, and take approximately 15 minutes. Formal musical training is not a prerequisite for the younger singers, but some prior musical experience is necessary for admittance to the high school division. The divisions of the chorus often perform together. All auditions and most rehearsals take place at the First Unitarian Society in Newton, located at 1326 Washington Street in West Newton.

YpM's Training Chorus is a small, nurturing ensemble for younger singers in grades 3 - 5. Training Chorus Director Brian Hagar-McKee brings a wealth of talent and experience in teaching music to young children. He currently teaches Chorus and General Music at the Sprague Elementary School in Wellesley, MA, and has served on staff for YpM's summer program and at the Treble Chorus of New England.

AUDITION DATES/TIMES for all choral groups:

Tuesday, January 3, 2012 6-9 PM Monday, January 9, 2012 6-9 PM

For more information: 617-666-6087 or auditions@youthpromusica.org

YpM Summer Week, August 20-24

The response to our first ever YpM Summer Week was overwhelmingly positive. We are pleased to announce that registration for our 2012 program opened at the beginning of December. Singers join their YpM friends for a week of music-making, learning and fun. Classes are offered in vocal technique, diction and music theory. The week culminates with an informal concert at Second Church in Newton on Friday evening, a preview of repertoire planned for the 2012-2013 season. E-mail <u>auditions@youthpromusica.org</u> or call 617-666-6087 for information. Sign up by Jan. 30 and pay \$225. (Tuition will be \$250 after that date.)

Looking for the Sub List?

Effective with the previous issue, the sub list is no longer printed in the Newsletter. It is only available on our website www.bostonago.org in the members area.

This will allow us to put more information into the list and update it in a more timely manner. It will also save us duplicate effort.

Contact Joshua Lawton if you have any questions.

Organ Library Holiday Closure

Please note that BAGO Organ Library at B.U. will be closed from December 23 to January 3.

Next Deadline: January 10 for February 2012 Issue

Please send all notices, news, and articles to:

Jim Swist, 34 Jason Street #2, Arlington MA 02476 Or e-mail to <u>jimswist@gmail.com</u> (please no phone calls) (inline mail text or .doc/.pdf file attachment)

Include: day, date, time, brief description of program, location, address, phone number, price (or donation/free) and whether handicap-accessible.

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PLACEMENT JANUARY, 2012

The date in brackets following a church's name shows when the church first requested a listing. Salary is income paid by the church. Services such as funerals (fn) and weddings (wd) with additional fees are estimated as shown.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Denomination	Hours	Location	Name of Church	Organ	Salary E	Est. Add'l Comp
Roman Catholic	32	W. Roxbury, MA	St Theresa of Avila Parish [01/12]	Aeolian-Skinner	\$35,000 to	140 fn/25 wd
					\$38,000	
Methodist	8	Wakefield, MA	Wakefield/Lynnfield United Methodist	Allen	\$10,000	4 fn/2 wd
			Church [10/11]			
Episcopal	10	Danvers, MA	Calvary Episcopal Church [08/11]	Schlicker	\$12,000 to	5 fn/ 3 wd
					\$15,000	
Non-	13	Waltham, MA	Trinity Church [12/11]	Rodgers	\$16,000	5 fn/1 wd
Denominational						
Episcopal	10-20	Ayer, MA	St Andrew's Episcopal Church [08/11]	Estey	\$13,500 to	4-6 fn/2-4
					\$17,000	wd
Episcopal	20-25	Beverly Farms,	St John's Episcopal Church [08/11]	Moller	\$32,000	20 fn/7 wd
		MA				
UU	6-10	Mendon, MA	Unitarian Congregation of Mendon and	Laws	\$6,000-	Not stated
			Uxbridge [12/11]		\$12,000	
UCC	8-10	Nahant, MA	Nahant Village Church [09/11]	Hook & Hastings	\$13,500	2 fn/2 wd

Please also see postings at www.bostonago.com for contact information regarding these openings. Some churches here may no longer be receiving names but have not notified placement.

<u>LISTING YOUR CHURCH ON THIS PAGE</u> Contact Janet Hunt, Placement Coordinator, at <u>janet.hunt@sjs.edu</u>.

Richard Bunbury Retirement

Richard R. Bunbury has announced his retirement from St. Theresa of Avila Parish in West Roxbury Massachusetts, where he has served for 32 years as Organist and Music Director. He directed an extensive and highly-regarded program of children's, youth, adult choirs, handbell ensembles, and cantors. He grew up in Savannah, Georgia where he attended Benedictine Military Academy and Armstrong State College. He moved to Boston in 1977 to pursue the M.M. degree at New England Conservatory, and continued his studies at Boston College receiving a M.A. in Pastoral Ministry, and subsequently, a Ph.D. in Music Education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In addition to his church work, he has directed several area choruses including the Simmons College Chorale and the Choral Arts Society. Richard taught at the Boston Conservatory from 1997-2007 before accepting his present position as full-time Lecturer in Musicology and Music Education at the School of Music at Boston University. He has been active in the Boston Chapter AGO and in several other professional organizations, in addition to being a published author, active choral clinician, and recitalist. He has accepted a position as Organist and Choirmaster at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Dover, Massachusetts.

Editorial

This is a repeat from several years ago, but recent experience seems to indicate that it needs to be said again.

I have been subbing a lot this season and thus have played more organs than usual. None of the instruments I have played was in what I would call excellent condition, and some were borderline unplayable.

The reason stated for this situation is as always – money. Now no one will dispute the financial effects on church budgets from a weak economy and, in many cases, decline in attendance.

However, in my travels not only as an organist, but also as an organ technician, I observe restored and reconditioned buildings, fresh paint, new chapels, grounds and greenery in excellent condition, and so on. But there always seems to be a cry of poverty when it comes to organ repair and maintenance.

It is critical that the music program be represented on finance and/or budgeting committees to fight for its share of the funds. So often this is not the case. And the real risk is that foregoing maintenance usually means that it is even more expensive the next time around - risking the start of a "death spiral" and another pipe organ in the trash. We all need to do everything in our power to prevent this.

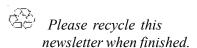
American Guild of Organists **Boston Chapter** Timothy Hughes, Membership Secretary 247 Washington Street #24 Winchester MA 01890

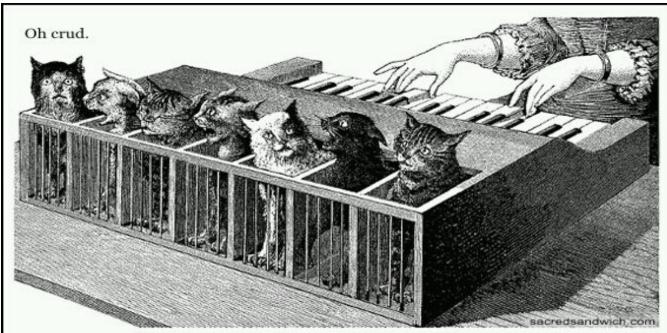
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Playing Christmas hymns on the Cat Organ was a holiday tradition at Planksford Baptist Church, but Fluffy was not looking forward to hitting the high note on "O Holy Night."