



# BOSTON PIPINGS

*news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO*

From the Dean

From the Sub-Dean

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## Greetings from the Dean:

AS ALWAYS - Please check to see if you have, in fact renewed your membership!

February is, thankfully, a short month...at least from my perspective! There is, however much to keep us distracted from the cold and snow.

A school vacation week gives some of us respite from the grind to refresh our winter-worn batteries, and the Merrimack Valley AGO "Mini-Convention" provides a great opportunity to refresh and tune up various skills and, maybe even more importantly, connect with colleagues. Click [here](#) for a registration form.

Faythe Freese is our BAGO featured artist for the year, and her presentation on February 17 at 8:00 at St. Cecilia's in Boston should be a huge boost and inspiration for us. I am always interested in events that blend various art mediums with music. Please to come hear her, and pass the word around, so we can have a terrific audience. The master class on Saturday, February 18 provides another opportunity growth. Look for more information in the Sub-Dean's message.

January's social event at the home of Louise Munding and her husband gave about 40 of us (10% of our membership) a chance to gather socially and exchange ideas in a relaxed setting. I am hopeful that we can make this an annual event! Thank you Louise!

I have had to opportunity to play for three colleagues' funeral/memorial services in my career. I say opportunity, because I consider it a special privilege and one of the greatest honors of all my work to provide the music for any person's transition from this life. It is hard, however, to say goodbye to a trusted and valued colleague. We have the opportunity to honor the work of Jane Flummerfelt at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 18 at Christ Church in Needham. Jane's obituary appeared in the Boston Globe on Sunday, January 22. She served various churches in the Chicago and Boston areas and worked hard for the AGO as well as Boston Early Music Festival, Choral Arts New England and other organizations. Calling hours are on Friday, February 17 at the Douglass Funeral Home in Lexington from 5-8 PM.

Another rewarding joy in my work comes from the musical enlightenment of the children I work with, in the church choirs and, especially with *Youth pro Musica*. One rehearsal when I asked them to take out Bach's *Wir Eilen* for rehearsal, one 9 year old boy cried out "Bach! That is my most favorite music!" For many of us J. S. Bach holds a special place in our musical lexicon. Boston has a relatively new, but terrific tradition at First Lutheran Church with the annual Bach Birthday Bash. It is a musical feast for a full day honoring this great musician's contributions co-sponsored by BAGO. I would call it a "Don't Miss" event to cure the winter blues. Sign up in advance for the lunch or just drop in for the music on Saturday, March 18 from 9-5. See more information in Louise's article.

May, June and July afford us many more opportunities to be connected and inspired. Look at the schedule and plan your participation and invite your colleagues! My message is: GET CONNECTED!

ONCARD problems continue to plague the membership process, but many of you have renewed - thanks! If you are in touch with other BAGO members, or former members, remind them to renew!

Please see other articles, including the Sub-Dean's message for more information on many upcoming events.

Have you renewed your membership yet?

*Robert Barney*



*From the Sub-Dean:*

### **Faythe Freese Recital**

**Friday, Feb. 17th, 8 pm. at St. Cecilia Parish  
on Belvedere St. in Boston. Music of Reger, Decker,  
Tournemire and Vierne**

**Free admission. Reception following.**

**Near Symphony and Hynes Auditorium T stops. On-street parking.**

**Masterclass at Old South with Faythe Freese on  
Saturday, February 18th at 10 am.  
Five organ students will play (see below)  
Free admission with a coffee break  
Across from Copley Station T stop**

It's now. We're in the thick of it. One big season down,  
another looming.

We meet ourselves at the door; there is so much to plan each  
week, so much to do. And now the latest is to be mindful. Mindful? We have little  
enough time as it is without adding something new. So isn't now a good time to talk



about how to practice?

★Faythe Freese is our guest artist for February

Faythe wrote a must-read article called "SureFire Practice Techniques" in the December *Diapason*. She talks about the usual: slow practice, left hand alone, right hand, etc. It's good to be reminded of these things. You know they work. But here is Faythe's twist: She keeps a running record of her progress. In keeping track of her practice sessions, Faythe can start where she left off the previous day. And then she goes further. She includes a category called "Rate Concentration: 1=poor, 5=excellent." *Oooh*. What a horrifyingly good idea. This age of distraction doesn't work for music practice. You already knew that, didn't you? Score preparation requires our everything; and everything can be put on a list. There are all sorts of studies in music education and psychology journals which help us identify how to learn and then how to retain what we have learned. This is important for busy people as well as those who have more unscheduled time. We musicians have much music to make in our short time here.

In writing this article I'm reminded of Jane Flummerfelt, one of our cherished BAGO members who recently died after a heroic six-year combat with cancer. A number of years ago, Jane called and asked if I would take over her weekly church choir rehearsal. "They are starting the Mozart Vespers, K. 339. This will be the first rehearsal." So, with that in mind I prepared myself to drill notes. At the rehearsal, however, I quickly discovered that the choir had done their homework. How did this happen? "We have tapes!" (this was a while ago). They had recordings, listened to them, learned the notes on their own so they could make music right away. Hats off to Jane. She knew how to use time. A link to Jane's obituary can be found [here](#).

One other way to use time is to be inspired by each other.

Faythe Freese will host a masterclass at Old South on February 18th at 10 am.

Five organ students will play. Free admission with a coffee break

Noel de Sa e Silva: Duruflé, *Prelude & Fugue on ALAIN* (student of Christian Lane)

Jennifer Hsiao: Widor, *Allegro vivace* (first mvmt), Symphony V (student of Christian Lane)

Sam Nelson: Marcel Dupré, *Variations sur un Noël* (student of Peter Sykes)

Gigi MitchellVelasco: Vierne, *Scherzetto*, Op. 31 (student of Peter Sykes)

Mary Jodice: Rheinberger: *Andante moderato* (first mvmt) Sonata no. 4 (student of Libor Dudas)

On deck:

- ı Christoph Wolff
- ı German Lunch
- ı Boston Organ Studio: Khristian Erich Bauer-Rowe, Laura Gullett, Jennifer Hsiao
- ı Ethan Sagin, baritone (and friends-chamber music)
- ı Christopher Holman, organ
- ı Kate Arndt, violin
- ı Carolyn Balkovetz, alto (Vespers cantata)

**Bach abides:**

*At Emmanuel Church in Boston:*

Peter Sykes, French suite 1, March 16 at noon

John Finney, French suite 2, March 23 at noon  
Open rehearsal BWV 54, March 18 , at 11:30 a.m.

*At Old West:*

Monday March 20 7:30 Masterclass with Diane Meredith Belcher

Tuesday March 21 7:30 benefit recital with Diane Meredith Belcher.

Masterclass free, Recital tickets \$25.

***WIMfest2017 Saturday, May 6th at Harvard University***

; Carson Cooman will play works of Carlotta Ferrari including a Ferrari World Premiere written for this occasion

; Janet Hunt will present her research on small-scale Motets for one to six voices and continuo in the the early 17<sup>th</sup> Century. It is a neglected or in most cases, unknown, genre. Most of them are Italian, although they in turn influenced composers like Peter Philips, Richard Dering, and Cornelius Burgh, among others.

; Members forum. Time to share what we know

***Members Recital and Annual Meeting, June 5th at 6 p.m.***

; St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Boston College

; Leo Abbott, Robert Barney and Janet Hunt are the recitalists

; Dinner!

**Looking ahead to summer:**

*Montreal Organ Festival July 2-6*

; The convention runs July 26 with add-on days on the 1st and 7th. Here is a [link](#) to the convention website.



★If you can't make it to the festival, you can still participate by supporting a student or underwriting an event. [Here](#) is a link to the page to sponsor a student. You can also name a student to sponsor. The current conversion rate is about 75%, meaning you can give a student registration, room at McGill and a small per diem for meals for \$562.

**Tour Bach's Organ World, July 1728**

Boston chapter member Lee Ridgway leads this year's tour to cities and organs with connections to J. S. Bach, as well as other organs of historic importance. The tour is centered around Dresden, Leipzig, and Berlin, with day trips to Naumburg, Halle, Altenburg, Störmthal, Wittenberg, and Tangermünde. Organs include instruments by Silbermann, Scherer, Ladegast, and Sauer. Of particular importance are organs by Hildebrandt and Trost which Bach played and knew well.

The tour, of which this is the 5<sup>th</sup> edition, originated with Quentin and Mary Murrell Faulkner, who had to withdraw for personal reasons. They asked Lee Ridgway to take over the tour in their stead. Lee participated in two previous tours, and has extensive

experience with historic organs, including those on the tour.

Time is built into the schedule for organists to play the instruments, as well as hear about their history and restoration. But the tour is not only for organists! It is for anyone interested in historic cities, churches, and organs, and anyone interested in seeing the magnificent attractions of eastern Germany reborn since reunification. Plenty of time is in the schedule for sightseeing.

The well-organized tour includes stays in 4-star hotels, most meals, and travel by deluxe motorcoach. Accompanying the tour is English-speaking German guide, Lothar Mohlmann, who also assisted with the previous four tours.

For full details on the tour, see the Concept Tours web site at this [link](#).

Also contact Lee directly with your questions: [ridgway@mit.edu](mailto:ridgway@mit.edu)

*-Louise Munding*

*And now a word from our sponsor...*

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