



## Pipings for July, 2017

### Greetings from the Dean ...

AS ALWAYS - Please check for yourself AND ask your colleagues to see if membership has been renewed! I know that I have not yet renewed for 2017/2018.

You should all be proud of your chapter members who went to Montreal in droves for the Region I convention. Everywhere I went there were scores of our fellow chapter members attending recitals and workshops, and networking. What a terrific Chapter! How great it was to see so many friends and colleagues! What a terrific experience!

Included in this issue is the address I gave to our Chapter Annual Meeting in June. I will underscore the need for us to participate, read the newsletter, attend Chapter events and be involved.

In the last several *Pipings* I have suggested that we should try to have small, local, social gatherings to connect with our colleagues in the towns where we live or work. I have tried, but not yet managed to do this where I work, but if you have, please send me an email to tell me how it went. I have not yet heard news of any gathering, so what are we waiting for?

Some recent developments with the Executive committee include adopting to present a Pipe Organ Encounter for young people in the summer of 2018 with Christine Hogan as chair. There will also be a major change in the election procedure for this year only. Please note that there will be a slate of Executive Committee members for the AT-LARGE positions only coming to you soon. All of our Chapter Officers will continue in their positions while we revisit the Operating Procedures and begin to strengthen our organization. Please watch for the slate, and vote as soon as you can!

Remember to check out our BAGO [website](#) to click on the New England regional calendar to see what else is going on in our region, or to list your own event.

Here's hoping you are finding some well-deserved rest from your labors! Have you renewed your membership yet?

- Robert Barney



### News from the Sub-Dean ...

#### Exciting news about our Opening Service!

The Opening Service will be held on Monday, September 11th at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul at 138 Tremont Street, funded by the Carole Lawton Memorial Fund and featuring Alice Parker of *Melodious Accord*. Alice Parker's music at the Opening Service will honor Carole with vibrant singing! We will all be the choir. Together we will make this a joyous occasion.



Many of us sing Alice Parker's music, and we know her because of her choral arrangements, but in a recent conversation, she said that Melody is where she is most at home. Alice, a native of Boston, studied the organ with Wilson T. Moog at Smith College; and in her own career she has often noted the parallels between the organ and the voice. Her work has been to help congregations find their own voices, and so on September 11th we will explore about twelve hymns, singing them all *a capella*.

Here is the lineup for Sept. 11th:

5 – 5:45 pm Open console ((Andover organ, 2 manuals, 24stops) Pianists, this is especially for you! An organ technician will be onhand to answer any questions you may have.

5:45 pm Prelude played by Louise Munding, Interim MusicDirector at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

**6 pm Alice Parkerwith Chaplain Carl Daw and Acting Dean of the Cathedral Nancy Gossling**

7 pm Installation of Officers

7:15 Reception

*Looking ahead:* Our first sponsored recital will be at First Lutheran Church on October1st at 3 pm. BernhardKlapprott of Weimar/Germany will play a fascinating concert of music by JS andCPE Bach, Buxtehude, Pachelbel and Kellner.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED**You may still advertise in the Program Book. The Deadline is now August 11th. The advertising contract is [here](#). Support your chapter! Your ad will be seen all year at each Chapter event.

- Louise Munding



## Dean's message for The Annual Report June 5, 2017 - St.John's Seminary, Brighton, MA

Welcome to the Annual Meeting of the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. As a Boston Chapter member for 37 years, and a Guild member for over 40, I have been awed by the examples of many of the giants in our field, and especially by the inspiration and leadership of the professionals and past Deans of this Chapter. It is an honor and privilege, if not somewhat intimidating to serve as your Dean. My primary task is to call and run the Executive Committee Meetings and to oversee the Chapter business.



The Executive Committee met five times: October, November, January, April and May. Our February meeting was snowed out. John Robinson has resigned his term on the Executive Committee so we have his remaining 2-year term to fill. A sub-group has been working on updating our operating procedures. There has been much Executive Committee discussion about the budget, as it is with all organizations. We struggle with how much money to spend on chapter programs when so few attend, and yet, if we don't spend money will even fewer people come? I, and our Treasurer, Daryl Bichel (running for a second term, thankfully) are committed to staying within our budget as much as possible, and keeping our finances in order.

I take the role of Dean very seriously and I usually try to be positive and put a good spin on things, but preparing this report has been a personal struggle. I have been tremendously excited by Louise Munding's enthusiasm for the Chapter and her commitment to programs. I had high hopes coming in as your Dean for inspiring, organizing, and accomplishing some desperately needed changes. Instead I have found myself fighting the hopeless feeling of people not doing what they said they would, or not even willing to offer to do it, and also a bit mired in the FTC ruling issues. I am disappointed by poor attendance at meetings and chapter events, and several stalled or ineffective projects. I admit that I am not the most organized of individuals, but I have, over the years, learned how to work at imposing order amid chaos. Clearly, now, I need help. The chapter needs your help. Our nominating committee has had trouble coming up with a slate of officers for election this year. I have been so busy chasing projects and dealing with crises that I haven't had the time or energy to chase down committee chairs to see what's going on in some of our committees. We are a terrific chapter full of wonderful, talented people – the 2014 convention is proof of that. I also have to recognize that many of the people who do the chapter's work, have had health and other personal crises to juggle around these tasks. I am proud to be your Dean. But we need to face some cold, hard facts. Burnout is rampant, participation is low, membership is shrinking and I fear that the FTC ruling on our professional dealings will have a tremendous impact on our membership, once people realize the full ramifications of it. You and our fellow chapter members can change this, but we have to want a strong chapter. Participation and presence is key. I would like to emphasize the proposal of having small, regional gatherings by community or geographic area. This has been successful in the

past, and I think having a social get-together time among colleagues is a great way to network. Take this opportunity over the summer. We are also going to work at including more social time for our chapter events next year. Every time I have an interaction with other Guild members, I am reminded of why this is so important. My refrain is "Get involved, Participate!"

There are some incredibly bright spots in the Chapter. Thanks to Christine Hogan, our Young Organists Initiative awarded more scholarships this year than ever in its history. These young players will be offering a performance at King's Chapel on Tuesday, June 27 at 12:15 PM. Also thanks to Christine, our chapter will be hosting another Pipe Organ Encounter in July 2018. The future of the profession looks to me to be more positive than it looked in my younger days.

Another bright spot is the formation of a Communications Committee and the upgrade of our monthly newsletter "Pipings", thanks to Clarie De Cusati and Louise Mundinger. The shift to an "On-Line" Directory will replace the printed "Yearbook". One of the delays getting this out is at the national level. We have now decided to go on our own at the chapter level. You can access this directory at our website, with your member number as found on the cover of your TAO magazine.

Our Library continues to function under the leadership of Carl Klein, administrator, and the Library Committee: Lois Regestein, Barbara Owen, Joyce Painter Rice, and Harry Kelton. We could use some new blood on this committee so if the Library is your area of interest speak to Carl or one of the committee members. Many of you probably don't even know much about this wonderful resource, so be sure to attend the Chapter event there next year or arrange a visit!

SPAC is a wonderful program that awards grants to fund special projects, from the interest from monies earned by the 1976 and 1990 conventions. There are specific guidelines for grants, and there have been many exciting accomplishments benefitting the organ funded all or in part by grants from SPAC. See the detailed report attached.

Our bi-annual Chapter Quimby Competition came at great détente managed by David Baker and the flexibility of the clergy, staff, and member Andrew Sheranian at All Saint's, Ashmont. Nothing is ever simple but this seemed over the top – thank you David!

Margaret Angelini has jumped in to take over and complete the Nominating committee work to provide a slate, albeit with only one name per office. Elections will be held in Mid July – PLEASE watch for the next issue of Pipings for information.

Some of our standing committees continue to function thanks to a chair who has done the job for a long time – some willing to stay and others unable to continue. There are several committees without chairs, and not operating currently.

Communications - Claire DeCusati  
Competitions - David Baker  
Education and Exams - Douglas Major  
Finance - Daryl Bichel  
First Day - Bryan Ashley  
Hospitality - Jeffrey Mills  
Library - Carl Klein (default)  
Membership - Lynn Vermeer  
Organ Advisory - Vacant  
Placement - Janet Hunt  
Professional Development - Charlene Higby  
Programs (Sub-Dean) - Louise Mundinger  
SPAC (Special Projects Advisory Committee) - Martin Steinmetz  
Substitutes - Joshua Lawton  
Website/Constant Contact - David Baker  
Young Organists Initiative - Christine Hogan

A huge Thanks to all who have served, all who continue to serve, and all who have agreed to serve our Chapter. If you are interested in leadership speak to me. Now we just need to get folks to come to chapter events! Even with the above-mentioned issues our Chapter continues, and does include members who are doing incredibly exciting things. A huge Thanks to all who have served, all who continue to serve, and all who have agreed to serve our Chapter. If you are interested in leadership speak to me. Now we just need to get folks to come to chapter things at wonderful venues. There are many regular programs in our area such as the Methuen Memorial Music Hall Concert series, the longest running and largest in the country. Right in Boston we have the Old West Organ Society, Trinity Church Copley Square, First Lutheran, and King's Chapel, just to name a few. This is a very exciting place to be working our craft, and the area is full of inspiring offerings. I have, and continue to be proud to rub shoulders with my colleagues, and serve, for a brief time as your leader.



## YOUNG ORGANISTS INITIATIVE

SCHOLARSHIP

AUDITIONS

Saturday, October 21-11:00 a.m.

Marsh Chapel, Boston University

735 Commonwealth Avenue

Students in Grades 6-12 are invited to audition

Bring organ and/or piano music to audition for a  
scholarship for formal study of the organ

SCHOLARS RECEIVE

\* Scholarships for 20 Lessons (\$600) with BAGO organ  
teacher

\* Membership in the American Guild of Organists

\* Vouchers for organ music from Spectrum Music

\* All 2017 - 2018 Scholars will play in a recital at

KING'S CHAPEL, Boston

Tuesday, June 26 2018 at 12:15 p.m.

Click here for an [application](#)

For information: e-mail

Christine Hogan christine01776@verizon.net

Young Organists Initiative Chair

