



# BOSTON PIPINGS

news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO

## ***June 2020 Pipings - The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter AGO***

[Click here to go to the Calendar on our website.](#)

Greetings!

My liturgical calendar says, "Ordinary Time." My actual calendar says, "Anything BUT Ordinary Time." We have gotten through Trinity in time for that wonderful season of rest and reflection. It's time to claim the R & R because it is necessary now more than ever. Our jobs have changed in one way and not at all in another. Our congregations cannot fully meet yet and singing is dangerous. But music is one way people can connect, even through online worship. People have said to me "It feels so good to sing" while singing with our online choirs. What? Really? Yes, really. Our work continues despite all the limitations, and it is important work.



It takes much more time to make music now and you should communicate that to your clergy and congregations. Some churches may need to make reductions due to fewer donations. Because of that the lines of communication need to be open and two-way now that the program year is over. Many churches have formed re-opening task forces, but what we know now is that nothing is certain. Do you have a Plan B?

And in the midst everything, it is important to take time for reflection. What have you learned in the past months? What works? Has your creativity been tested? Have you found out new possibilities? We can't go back to business as usual and that is a good thing. We have been booted into a new world.

I recently came across a book published in 2018 by Jeffrey L. Johnson, a Lutheran pastor and poet from Sudbury and the husband of BAGO member Kirsten Johnson (St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Newton Lower Falls). I recommend the 25 essays on hymns and spiritual songs included in the book; essays written by Muslim, Christian and Jewish poets. The title of the book is "***Stars Shall Bend Their Voices; Poets' Favorite Hymns & Spiritual Songs***". It's feeding my soul now.

And finally, a special thanks to our slate of nominees for the coming year. With this group BAGO will be in very good hands. Thanks to **Patrick Walker** for chairing the nominating committee.

Support each other, grieve when necessary, take walks and rejoice in small things.

**Louise Munding, Dean**

## New Member Welcome

Welcome a new member of our Chapter. **Emily Mazzarella**. Emily is a member of the Worcester Chapter and is a Dual Member with BAGO, joining us in May. We're glad you've joined us and look forward to meeting you when we can gather again in person.

## Save the Dates - Upcoming Webinars from AGOHQ



- June 19th, 3:30 pm ET: Putting it Together: Tools for Choral Collaboration and Recording. Continuing in our series of technology webinars, featuring Regional Councillor Sue Mitchell-Wallace and Kevin Harris with Harrisland studios, this webinar will cover software for that can be used for recording and editing choral performances.
- June 26th, 3:30 pm ET: Building on Your Chapter's Best Practices as You Seek, Encourage and Respect - One Member at a Time, presented by AGO's Committee on Membership Development and Chapter Support
- July 10th, 2:30 pm ET: Planning a Smoother Experience for Substitute Organists and Hosts. Join Sarah Bereza for a deep dive into what questions to ask and how best to prepare for work as a substitute organist.

Advanced registration is required for each seminar. Here's the information for June 19th:

When: Jun 19, 2020 03:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Putting it Together: Vocal Tools for Effective Collaboration and Recording

Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_pjG7A7KmSAm6uGzRicpGCA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pjG7A7KmSAm6uGzRicpGCA)

You will receive a separate email with login information.

Because each seminar requires separate registration, BAGO will be sending out notifications to Chapter members for each seminar. (As technology improves, maybe there may be a group registration for all seminars, but that doesn't exist right now. Your patience with the communication and registration process is appreciated).

## Annual Meeting

The **Annual Meeting** will be held this year via ZOOM. Please mark your calendar for Monday, June 29th beginning at 6:30 PM. Details on how to join this meeting will follow.

## Chapter Elections 2020

The slate of officers for the 2020 Chapter Elections has been sent out to voting members of the Chapter. After a comment period of 30 days (ending July 5), a ballot will be sent out. Voting members have 14 days to cast their ballot. Voting closes on July 20, 2020.

When you receive your ballot, please take the time to vote. Your participation is critical for the success of our Chapter.

Special thanks to those who have volunteered to stand for election and to lead our Chapter.

## Is it time to renew your AGO Membership?



This time of year, our Chapter normally has a large number of memberships coming up for renewal. AGO Headquarters has extended a member's expiration date with a three month grace period; however, when a membership becomes inactive, it will result in suspended delivery of TAO. During this time, encourage you renew your membership by credit card, utilizing ONCARD.

A video with instructions on how to renew through ONCARD can be found [here](#). If you are not comfortable using ONCARD through the <http://www.agohq.org> website, the member services team is here to help! Please call 212-870-2311 and follow the voicemail prompts. They are most happy to help in processing anyone's membership renewal by credit card!

## Past Dean's List - Photos and Biographies



We have added a page to our website with images and biographies of past Deans of the Boston Chapter, beginning at our founding in 1905. We have photos of **ALL** of our past Deans (starting at 1905). We are waiting for the biographies of some of the past Deans to be submitted, but we now have a wonderful collection of the people who helped to found and run the Boston Chapter AGO.

Take a look at the page by clicking [here](#)

Special Thanks to **Barbara Owen, Carson Cooman, Carl Klein, Leo Abbott,** and **Louise Mundinger** of our Chapter, **Todd Sisley**, editor of *The American Organist* magazine, and **Gail Dow** from the Methuen Memorial Music Hall for their help in researching these Deans.



Click the image to link to our website



Click the image to link to AGO HQ website

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