



## Pipings for September, 2017

### Greetings from the Dean ...

PLEASE BE SURE to 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. Do it NOW! Be sure that the AGO has your current Email address! *[Editor's Note: the election email is out. If you didn't get one, please contact Jay Lane.]*

**Chapter Elections are taking place now. Even with those vacations, and last-minute-attempts to squeeze every bit of pleasure out of our summer before Labor Day, it is very important that you VOTE. Please watch your Email inbox for ballot instructions!**

The new "Program Book" is nearly ready to print, but at this point we still need more ads to pay for it. If you are planning to advertise, please do so NOW. See instructions elsewhere in this issue of *Pipings*.

In the last several *Pipings* I have suggested that we should have small, local, social gatherings to connect with our colleagues in the towns where we live or work. Let me know if you have had one, and how it went?

Please note that our opening service will take place at St. Paul's Cathedral on Tremont St in Boston, on Monday, September 11 starting at 5:45 PM. Alice Parker will be on hand to share her vision of making music together, and our newly elected officers will be installed for another year. This is a terrific time to be reminded of why the AGO exists, and, why we here in Boston have so much to be proud of. Come join the celebration! Take note of the other scheduled chapter events listed elsewhere in this issue of *Pipings*.

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. Also, watch for your monthly issue of *Pipings* in your inbox to see what the chapter is up to.

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 ...

**Our opening event** is with the magnificent Alice Parker on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 pm at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont Street across from the Park Street Station.

There will also be an open console to see the Andover organ beginning at 5 pm.



Many of us know Alice Parker from her choral arrangements , but she also studied organ at Smith College as well as composition. In 1985, she founded Melodious Accord, Inc., a non-profit group which presents choral concerts, sponsors workshops, symposia, and her many professional appearances. Her techniques have encouraged a generation of music teachers and choral conductors to think about music and the act of conducting in new ways. No less an authority than Robert Shaw himself has said of Parker that "...she possesses a rare and creative musical intelligence." *From melodiousaccord.org*

- **The Program Book**

The Program, Communications and Hospitality Committees have been at work to design a BAGO year with something for everyone. Many thanks to David Baker, Brink Bush, Heinrich Christensen, Claire Decustati, Katelyn Emerson, Mary Jodice, Sarah Johnson, Jeffrey Mills, Kevin Neel, Demetri Sampas and Frank Van Atta for giving their time, efforts and talents. We have a new design for the program book, but not enough advertisers to actually put it out. Here is a sample of what it will look like. The booklet will be the same size as the old Yearbook. If you get your ad to Daryl Bichel by Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup> we will be able to get the program book printed and distributed.



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***BAGO congratulates Martin Steinmetz on his retirement from the Allin Congregational Church. Following is a testimonial which was sent to us following Martin's retirement in June.***

#### RETIREMENT AFTER 54 YEARS AT DEDHAM CHURCH

After directing over a half century of music at the Allin Congregational Church in Dedham Center Martin Steinmetz has retired. Two special Sunday mornings of music and receptions were given by the church in May and June. Martin was presented with many gifts and the title of *Minister of Music, Emeritus*.

In celebration of Choir Sunday, May 21, at the morning worship service, selections from Handel's "Messiah" were presented. The Senior Choir was augmented by members of the Dedham Choral Society, string players, and trumpet soloist Greg Whitaker. Then, during the Sunday morning June 11 service (with double the normal attendance), Martin presented a half-hour organ recital followed by a luncheon reception.

Over this half-century time period he worked with 5 Ministers, all of which encouraged and fully supported the music program which includes all-volunteer choirs. Martin has had the good fortune of never missing a service due to illness. During this time period it is estimated that he played at 2,500 Sunday services, 400 funeral/memorial services and 150 weddings. The organ at the church is a 55 rank 1912 Skinner organ which came from Harvard University's Appleton Chapel. It was installed at Allin Church in 1938 and subsequently had some tonal alterations and a new console.

Martin also served the Boston Chapter in many ways during his time in Dedham. He started as Chapter Treasurer in 1965 followed by Program Chairman, Dean, and Associate Chairman of the 1976 National Convention. He was the author of the booklet "The Work and Compensation of the Church Musician", and for 30 years the Executive Producer of the Chapter's radio program on WCRB.

[Editor's Note: Here is a link to an article about Martin in the Dedham "Wicked Local" paper, with a very good picture of Martin.]



## 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

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Young Organists Initiative Chair

