

THE Worcester Organist

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORCESTER CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS... VOL. III No. 5

DEAN'S MESSAGE MAY 1985

I promise you - this will be the last long Dean's Message of the season. There is much to cover again but all of it interesting, so I hope it won't be too large a burden to bear.

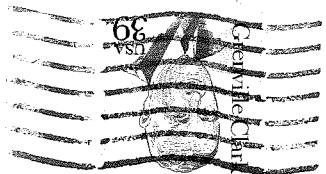
ANNUAL GUILD SERVICE AND MEETING: First there is a time change from that announced in the last issue. The service will begin at 6:00 p. m. and not 5:00 p. m. in deference to a service to honor Bill Self which will be held at Christ Church, Rochdale at 4:00 p. m. on the same day, Sunday, June 2. The service will be held in the elegant sanctuary of the First Congregational Church in Spencer, the large white church on Route 9, approximately 20 minutes outside of Worcester. Dinner and the Annual Meeting will follow in the church's Mary Porter Hall. As I mentioned last month, your attendance is essential since we will be voting on the proposal to host the 1990 National AGO Convention at this meeting. Full details about the service, dinner, and meeting are ahead in the newsletter. Please do read them carefully.

THE FULLER INTERNATIONAL ORGAN FESTIVAL AT WORCESTER: Where are the very finest organists and organ scholars in the world playing, competing, and teaching this summer? Here, in Worcester, June 9 - 15. Roberta Gary, Robert Glasgow, Bernard Lagace, Jean Langlais, Gillian Weir, and Christoph Wolff will all be here for a week of concerts, recitals, competitions, lectures, and masterclasses. It will be a week like none other before and perhaps like none other that will happen again. This is a singular opportunity for Worcester Chapter members, and members will be offered a special reduced rate to attend this symposium. A Festival brochure is included in this newsletter, and full details are on the back of the calendar.

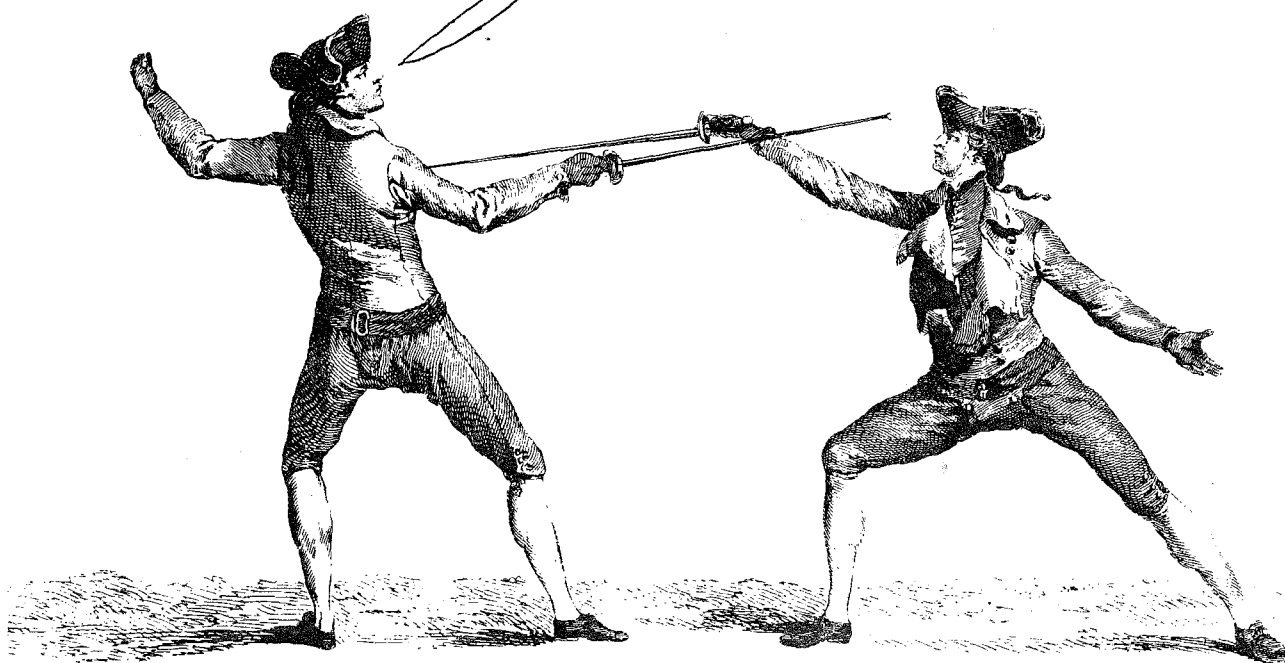
DUES: They're going up. Treasurer Nancy Chouinard tells you more about this in the enclosed flyer. When dues are raised, so are voices— in protest. But this is an understandable increase. Operating costs at both the national and local levels are not unaffected by general economic trends and cannot, then, remain constant. You will be interested to know that our chapter newsletter and rent at Mechanics Hall use all but \$700.00 of the funds we retain from your dues after National gets its share. Yet, who would want us to return to Xerox newsletters arriving whenever bulk mailing decides to deliver them, and who can deny that an office, an address, and a phone at Mechanics Hall are a steal for \$50 a month? The \$700 left over is not much with which to run an

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AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
WORCESTER CHAPTER
MECHANICS HALL
321 MAIN STREET
WORCESTER, MA 01608



You play Bach your way, and I'll play Bach his way!



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active chapter like ours. We know, then, how hard National must have to scrape to provide us with the range and quality of services that they do. That's what it's about. For the meager amount we pay for dues, we get a lot in return. When any organization grows, as ours has, our resources must grow so that we can continue to provide for our members as they deserve to be provided for. This modest dues increase helps insure that we will.

A TREASURE RESTORED: Those who visited the 1857 E. and G.G. Hook Organ at West Brookfield's Whitefield United Methodist Church during FALL CRAWL III will be happy to know that this jewel of an organ has been semi-restored through the efforts of organist Kathy Chagnon, members of the church, and the Andover Organ Company. A celebratory recital will be presented on Saturday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. by Stephen Long. This is a recital to support with our attendance. The chapter previously donated \$110 to the organ restoration, and the combination of devotion, skill, and hard work displayed in the project have redeemed an important instrument. The recital is free. Make a day of it. West Brookfield, right on Route 9, is a beautiful New England town. Have a picnic on the common or dine at the elegant Victorian Brookfield House. And then enjoy the sounds the Hooks created, now restored for us to hear again.

BRAVOS AND BRAVAS: To all who helped organize, who participated in, and who attended our April marathon of events. THE ORGAN CRAWL was again a success and, impossibly, seemed to have been even better than the ones of previous years. A big brava to Andrea Goodrich for her superb work in organizing it and thanks to recitalists Ruell Gifford, Earl Miller, Steve Long, Suzanne Davis, Myles Tronic, Marla Traxler, and Lucy Falco for so ably demonstrating the instruments. Karen Wielsma dispensed hospitality in her usual hospitable manner, and Trinity Church offered us theirs yet again. If you saw the full-page review of the Crawl in a recent County Edition of the "Worcester Sunday Telegram" please be aware that there was an editorial goof, and all of the quotes attributed to "Long" should have been attributed to me. I say this because if there were any inaccuracies, I don't want you to blame Steve. I don't know why we are so often mistaken for each other. He is so much better looking!

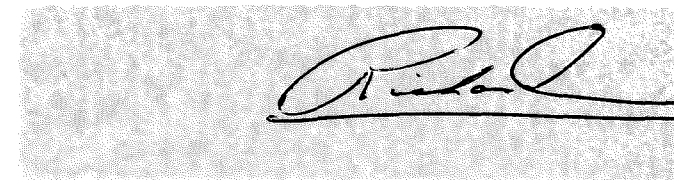
BRIAN JONES' ROMANTIC ORGAN WORKSHOP was one of the more stimulating and enjoyable that I've attended, and his recital on St. Cecilia's marvelous Casavant was first-rate. It was so nice to take a breather from Bach this year and lose oneself in the lushness of Guilman! Those of you who missed this one really missed something! Special praise is sung for Lois Toepfner's work on this event and for David Lasky's valuable assistance.

SIMON PRESTON is a consummate musician, and his work on April 21 with the Worcester Orchestra was terribly exciting. We were all in awe of his Poulenc SANS pistons and registrants. You will be interested to know something Mr. Preston let slip out over lunch one day. All the music in the film "Amadeus" that wasn't Mozart's was Preston's! And he as well did all of the keyboard playing for the movie and trained the actors who were seen playing to look as if they were.

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Now, after all of that, go out and get some sun for me! I'll be chained to my desk for the next month!



PLACEMENT

UNITED PARISH, WINCHENDON, MA Organist only beginning in January of 1986. Contact Mrs. Priscilla Winehill, 11 East Street, Winchendon, MA

TAFT MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, UXBRIDGE, MA. Organist/Choir Director beginning May 19. Gilbert & Butler tracker organ. One service and one choir rehearsal. \$25 per week.

NOTE: A small church with a part time minister, thus the low salary. But a good position for the non-professional or just beginning. Contact Arlene Buker, 324 Providence Road, Box 371, Linwood, MA 01525

ST. PATRICK'S R.C. CHURCH, RUTLAND, MA 01543 O/D. 10:30 Mass on Sunday. Choir rehearsal during week. Salary negotiable and will be discussed during an interview. Contact the Pastor, Fr. Raymond Goodwin, 886-4309

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RINGE, N.H. O/D. One Sunday service. One choir & rehearsal. George Stevens 17 stop tracker. Three weeks vacation. Small church. \$2,940 per year. Contact the Rev. Richard Tulip, 603-899-5722

HIGHLY COMPETENT ORGANIST AND CHAPTER MEMBER whose church drastically reduces salary during July and August is considering taking those two months off. Is interested in substituting in churches with interesting organs in Worcester area. Salary negotiable. Direct inquiries to Richard Jones, Placement Director, Worcester Chapter Office at Mechanics Hall (752-5608)

DEAN IN NEW DOMICILE

The Dean has moved. His new address is 28 William Street #32, Worcester, MA 01609. His telephone number remains the same, 798-0548. NOTE: He now has a digital, rather than human answering machine. Please do not hesitate to leave a message should you call and reach the machine which has an electronic voice which in no way resembles the clarion vox humana of the Dean.

§ CALENDAR §

MAY

2, Thursday, 12:05 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL
MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MA
Organ Recital. Brenda Fraser Caldwell.
Free 30 minute program followed by optional lunch, 99¢. Works of Handel, Widor, Jongen.

5, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MAIN STREET, WORCESTER
"King David" by Honegger. The Wesley Choir and the Oratorio Choir of Pittsfield.

10, Friday, 8:00 p.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, WORCESTER
The First Baptist Chancel Choir in concert. Music of Bach, Handel, Poulenc. Concluding concert in the series, Arts at First Baptist XI.

17, Friday, 8:00 p.m.
ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH
WINTER STREET, MILFORD, MA
Organ Recital. John Ogasapian. Free.
Part of Music In Milford Series 1985.

18, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
ASSABET VALLEY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, FITCHBURG ST., MARLBORO, MA
The Assabet Valley Mastersingers with orchestra. Haydn's Mass in Time of War; Vaughn Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem. Tickets \$5, students & seniors \$3. Info. 562-9838

19, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MA
"Music for a Vaulted Ceiling" 16th century English Choral Music. Works of Tallis, Byrd, Mundy, Gibbons, and Rascar. Performed by the Longy Chorus for Early Music. Free. Part of the Fay B. and Charles T. Crocker Concert Series.

23, Thursday, 12:05 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MA
Recital by the Madrigals of Groton School, Craig E. Smith, director. (Free, as above recitals)

30, Thursday, 12:05 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MA
Recital by nine year old violinist Elise Kuder, accompanied by Karen Wielsma, organ. Free.

5, Sunday, 2:00 p.m.
WORCESTER ART MUSEUM
Spring Concert by the Bach Society of Worcester. Vocal octet accompanied by piano, 4 hands, Stephen Long and Sima Kustanovich, pianists. Works of Brahms and Strauss.

9, Thursday, 12:05 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MA
Recital. Jane Senja Ollikkala, soprano. Works of Schubert, Kirk, Yrjo Kilpinen. Free. Optional lunch to follow, 99¢.

16, Thursday, 12:05 p.m.
CHRIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MA
Organ Recital. Susan Oullette-Armstrong. Free 30 minute program followed by optional lunch.

17, Friday, 8:00 p.m.
HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
BARBER AVENUE, WORCESTER, MA
A Concert Memorial to Randall Thompson. The Master Singers of Worcester. Will include "Frostiana" and the famous "Alleluia." Tickets \$5 available at door.

19, Sunday, 8:00 p.m.
PAKACHOAG CHURCH, AUBURN, MA
Organ Recital. Paul Roy. Free will offering. Concluding concert in the series inaugurating the new Walker Organ.

19, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH, LEOMINSTER, MA
Choral and Organ Concert. 40 voice St. Cecilia's Parish Choir. David Lasky, organist. Choral works by Lasky, Hopson, Boyce, Handel. Organ works by Couperin, J.S. Bach, Rheinberger, Lasky, W.F. Bach, Guilman, Bonnet. Free. Concluding concert in the St. Cecilia's Organ Series.

25, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
WHITEFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WEST BROOKFIELD, MA (on Route 9)
Organ Recital. Stephen Long. Free.
(See details in Dean's Message)

JUNE

THE FULLER INTERNATIONAL ORGAN FESTIVAL
WORCESTER
June 9 - 15

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
Rhode Island Chapter
REGION I AGO CONVENTION
Providence - Newport, R.I.
June 23 - 26

T H E
 F U L L E R
 I N T E R N A T I O N A L
 O R G A N
 F E S T I V A L
 W O R C E S T E R

F A C U L T Y O F T H E W E E K

ROBERTA GARY, The University of Cincinnati
 "A high degree of reflective intelligence and solid musicianship."
 THE DIAPASON

ROBERT GLASGOW, The University of Michigan
 "A virtuoso of the first rank . . . exemplary and virtually flawless."
 NEWS-PRESS

BERNARD LAGACÉ, Concordia University, Montreal
 "A poet, a painter, an aristocrat of music."
 LIBRE BELGIQUE

JEAN LANGLAIS, Titular Organist, Ste. Clothilde, Paris
 "One of our century's leading composers."
 THE AMERICAN ORGANIST

GILLIAN WEIR, Concert Organist, England
 "Consummate and most unparalleled artistry."
 MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

CHRISTOPH WOLFF, Harvard University
 Renowned Bach Scholar who recently discovered the "new" Bach
 organ works

C O N C E R T S

Sunday, June 9, 1985, 8 p.m., Holy Cross College
 MISSA SALVE REGINA of Jean Langlais
 The Festival Choir and Brass of St. Paul's Cathedral, Worcester
 Joseph Policelli, Director; Thomas F. Holland III and James David
 Christie, Organists

Saturday, June 15, 1985, 8 p.m., Mechanics Hall
 MESSE SOLENNELLE of Jean Langlais
 The Choir of the Church of the Advent, Boston
 Edith Ho, Director; Mme. Langlais, Organist

Solo Organ Works performed by Roberta Gary, Robert Glasgow,
 Bernard Lagacé, Gillian Weir

R E C I T A L S

Monday, June 10, 1985, 2 p.m., Pakachoag Church, Auburn
 ROBERTA GARY, performing on the 1984 2m Walker Organ

Monday, June 10, 1985, 8 p.m., Mechanics Hall
 GILLIAN WEIR, performing on the 1864 4m Hook Organ

Tuesday, June 11, 1985, 8 p.m., Holy Cross College
 BERNARD LAGACÉ, performing on the 1985 4m Taylor & Boody
 Organ

Thursday, June 13, 1985, 8 p.m., All Saints Church, Worcester
 JEAN LANGLAIS, performing on the 1933 4m Aeolian-Skinner
 Organ

Friday, June 14, 1985, 2 p.m., The Groton School, Groton
 ROBERT GLASGOW, performing on the 1935 3m Aeolian-Skinner
 Organ

C O M P E T I T I O N S

Wednesday
 June 12, 1985, 7 p.m.
 Mechanics Hall
 Finals of the Competition
 in the French Tradition

Friday
 June 14, 1985, 7 p.m.
 Holy Cross College
 Finals of the Bach Competition

Lectures and Masterclasses: Offered in daily morning and afternoon sessions by all of the faculty of the week. Among the highlights will be Christoph Wolff discussing and playing the "new" Bach Chorale Preludes, and Jean Langlais discussing his Ste. Clothilde predecessors, Tournemire and Franck.

In addition there will be special meals and receptions and a mini-organ crawl.

TUITION:	\$200	Includes <u>all events</u> , special meals, receptions, and bus transportation.
	\$175	Without bus transportation.

WORCESTER CHAPTER AGO MEMBERS: \$175 for all events, special meals, receptions, and bus transportation
 \$150 without bus transportation

ROOM AND BOARD: \$175 at Holy Cross College, June 9 (p.m.) - June 16 (a.m.)
 Meals begin with breakfast on June 10 and end with breakfast on June 16.
 --Room charges are based on Double Occupancy. Single rooms are \$50.00 more for the week.

If you can only attend the evening recitals, concerts, and competitions, tickets for these events will be available at the Mechanics Hall Administration offices.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SPECIAL REDUCED RATE FOR WORCESTER CHAPTER MEMBERS. SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM MARKED "WORCESTER CHAPTER MEMBER" TODAY.