

THE CLARION

APRIL 2009

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF EASTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER OF
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

EASTERN NEW YORK
CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF
ORGANISTS
CHAPTER ORGANIZED 1920

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

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*Late copy may not be
included!*

CHAPTER WEBSITE

<http://agony.bizland.com>

Check out the Clarion at

<http://agony.bizland.com/clarion>

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEAN

Hello everyone,

I have just returned home after the Bach Birthday Bash at St. Paul's. What a superb ending to our year. The nice-sized crowd was mesmerized with the outstanding performances of Al Fedak, Steven Rosenberry, Nancy Frank, and Brian Hoffman. The many styles of Bach's organ works came to life on the Casavant organ. We thank each of the performers, and Bach must be dancing on his grave.

And so **The International Year of the Organ** for our chapter has come to an end, and I think we have done a remarkable job of promoting the organ. Our Organ Spectacular was well-attended, and I hope that we accomplished our goal of making new friends for the organ. (*Did you see our wonderful paragraph listing in the TAO? I think it was the longest item in the list of events!*) Our chapter spent a lot of money to present the year's events, but I think it was worth it. We learned that people and members in outlying areas appreciate having programs in their areas, and we reached out to children, hoping that they might develop an interest in the organ. Our hero of the year is, of course, Charles Jones, who came up with most of the ideas, thought out of the box, and put together a wonderful slate of programs. Great job, Charles!

Our Outreach Event in Glens Falls featured Bryan Kirk, David Vredenburg, Charles Jones and me. What a thrill it was to play the wonderful Reuter organ at First Presbyterian Church. Thanks to all who participated.

Now we must turn our thoughts to next year, and I am happy to report that the board has received the slate of officers from Nominating Committee Chairman, David Vredenburg.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

Dean:	Charles Jones
Sub-Dean:	Todd Sisley
Corresponding Secretary:	Brian Hoffman
Recording Secretary:	Edee Silva
Treasurer:	John Vernieu
Registrar:	John Vernieu
Auditors:	Gayle Hinsdill and Frank Bosher
BoardMembers:	Maury Castro, Ed Goodemote, Michael Ricciutto

(Two will be elected to the board.)

You have the opportunity to nominate other people for the offices, so if you want to add a name, you may submit a petition signed by at least five (5) Chapter Voting Members in good standing. Please send these to David Vredenburg prior to April 20, when we must submit the ballots to the printer so we can get them to you in time for the election. Please follow the voting procedures exactly, as no exceptions will be made to the rules! Our annual meeting will be May 9. You may vote at the meeting (only) if you have not submitted your ballot before then. We appreciate David's work as chair of the nominating committee.

(continued on next page)

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

In case you missed the announcement in TAO (January, page 86), there will be a slight increase in your dues:

- Regular \$92
- Special \$67
- Student \$37
- Partner \$67
- Dual \$36

Why is this increase necessary? Although dues have remained stationary for several years, the costs of postage, printing TAO, and insurance rates have all risen. (In case you are not aware of it, AGO carries a \$1 million liability insurance policy to cover every single chapter event.) If any of you find this increase a burden, you might consider asking your church to pay your dues. Many churches are pleased to reap the benefits of our membership that keep their musicians informed and educated and are willing to give you this perk.

Wishing everyone a special Easter and Passover season,

Barbara Adler, Dean

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The Guild sends out its sympathies to Walter Jones and his family for the recent loss of his wife.

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LAST CHAPTER EVENT FOR THE SEASON

May 9 at 11:00 AM - Student Scholarship Winners Recital, Annual Meeting and Buffet Luncheon
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3rd & State St., Troy
Daisy Baker's Restaurant, 33 2nd St. Troy
Cost: \$20 per person (paid individually)

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Trivia Question for April:
Which composer, in his later life, said he strongly disagreed with the metronome markings he had placed on many of his early works.
(Answer on page 4)

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OTHER EVENTS

Sunday, April 5 at 3:30 PM - Organ recital and Meditation on the Passion of Christ
Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys, The Cathedral of All Saints, 62 South Swan Street, Albany

Friday, April 17, 2009 at 6:00 PM - Organ and Voice Recital by Don Ingram and Gene Tobey
A concert to celebrate the fifth anniversary of Gene's sixtieth birthday! The concert will be in St. James Church, 391 Delaware Avenue, Albany. A new composition by Al Fedak, commissioned for the anniversary, will be heard for the first time. Other works will include solos from *Elijah*, *Sonata No. 2* by Mendelssohn and an arrangement of *How Can I Keep From Singing?* arranged for and presented at the sixtieth-birthday concert.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Employment listings are provided free of charge as a service to our members and to employing institutions. Since listings are published exactly as they are received, The Guild assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of their content. Ads will run for two months unless or until word is received that a given position has been filled. Please notify the editor when a position has been filled.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs - We seek a piano accompanist to cover Sunday services each week through August 31, 2009. The job responsibilities of the Pianist/Accompanist are as follows: Accompanying congregational hymns, usually three, on the piano. Hymns are chosen by the minister or service leader. Playing anthems during services, usually three solo pieces (prelude, offertory and meditation). Anthems may be chosen by the minister /service leader and/or the accompanist may be asked to supply pieces. Accompanying vocalists and/or instrumentalists performing a piece or pieces during a service. These pieces would be in lieu of a solo piano anthem. The Pianist/ Accompanist is expected to perform at all church services, except agreed upon absences. The Congregation has two Sunday services, at 9:30 AM and 11:15AM, except in the summer when there is a single service at 10:00 AM. If there is a musical group or vocalist with which the Pianist /Accompanist needs to work, she/he would need to arrive as early as 8:30 AM for rehearsal (9:00 AM in summer). The job of Pianist/Accompanist is expected to require up to 5 hours. This includes preparation time, any time needed to choose music, rehearsal time with vocalists before the service, and time at the services on Sunday. Compensation range: \$ 100-\$150 per week depending on experience level. For more information or to schedule an interview/audition please contact Barbara Kass at bkass6@gmail.com (518) 461-9971 or Linda Wilkes at lwilkes@neami.com (518) 584-8448. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs, 624 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (518) 584-8448 www.Saratoga-uu.org

Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Clifton Park, NY is seeking a choir director for the 8:30 am Sunday morning choir. The choir currently has 12 members, 6 of whom serve as cantors on a rotating basis. The position involves a weeknight (currently Thursday) choir rehearsal at 7:30 pm and Sunday morning mass at 8:30 am. This choir also sings at special masses during the year, including Thanksgiving morning, Christmas Vigil, Good Friday, and the Ascension. The choir takes summers off. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: planning music, playing the piano and/or organ, directing the choir from the keyboard, recruiting choir members, training and preparing cantors, and leading the congregation in song when the choir is not present. Corpus Christi is located at exit 10 of the Northway. It is a large suburban parish of about 2,000 families. Payment per mass is \$125 with choir, \$75 without choir. Inquiries can be directed to Shelley Dumoulin (current director) at 877-5399 or Luanne Hetz (parish music coordinator) at 899-9417 .

Christ Episcopal Church in Greenville, NY. is looking for a substitute organist for occasional Sundays. Possible position for all services, beginning June 1, 2009. Small rural parish with attendance of 40-50 each Sunday. Tracker pipe organ - well maintained. \$75-100/Sunday for substitutes. Please call Kathie Clark at 518.239.4196.

St. John's Lutheran Church in Albany is searching for a part time position to play Saturday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Chapel service and 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service. Organist and Choir Director - minimum requirement but would consider position as Director of Music as well. Salary is commensurate with experience, following Guild's basic compensation schedule as well as ELCA's recommendations. musicvacancy@stjohnsalbany.org

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Trivia Answer:
Johannes Brahms

In addition to just plain rethinking his tempi, it is possible that he had a very inaccurate metronome. Many pendulum and electronic metronomes tick inaccurately and can be off by as much as 30%. Newer models, especially pocket metronomes are much more accurate, but still should be tested at 60 BPM against a trustworthy clock for one minute.

PIPE ORGAN PARTS FOR FREE & FOR SALE

Many ranks of string & flute pipes, all conditions; Diapason pipes, good & mediocre conditions; Chimes, Vibraphone/Harp; 2 Orgelblo Blowers; 2 Medium Reservoirs; 5 Rank Chest with pipes; Brand New Boxes of Magnets; Hammond C3 Church Organ; Contact Brian at 797-3346 or briansky@gotsky.com