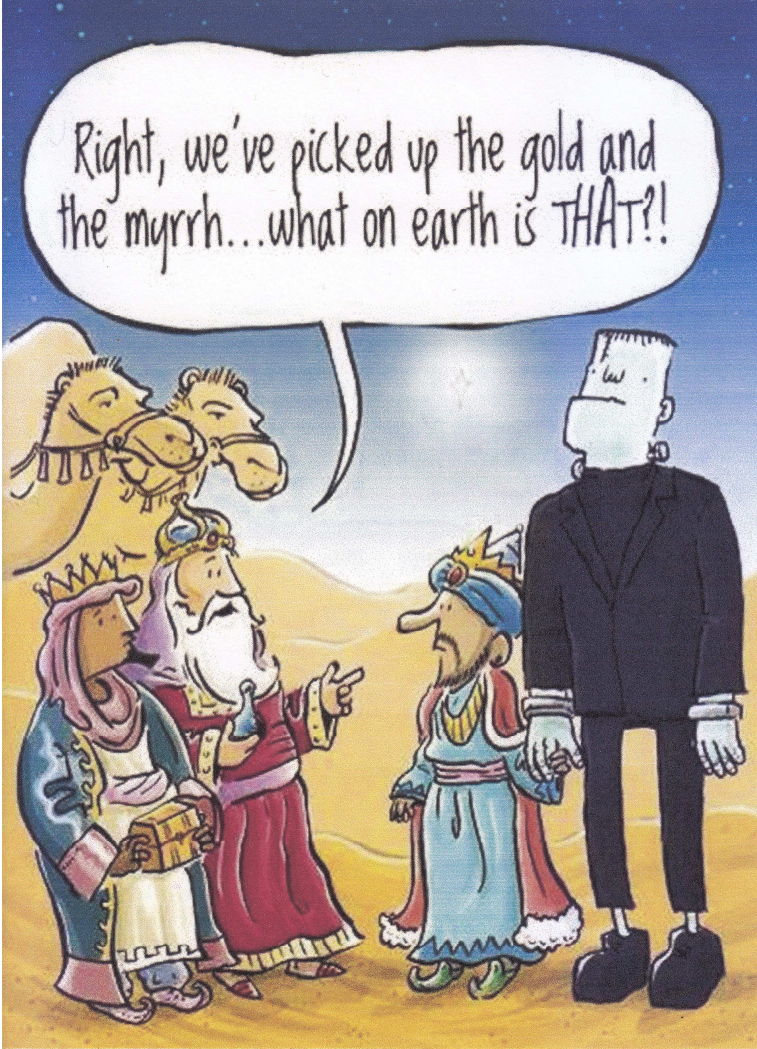


THE BROOKLYN BOMBARDE

The Newsletter of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Celebrating Our 60th Anniversary: 1960 - 2020
November 2020



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Dean's Letter

Dear Brooklyn AGO Members,

Greetings! At the time of this writing, the days are getting shorter, nights longer, fall colors fading, and trees becoming increasingly barren. I wish I could report that lively activity in the Guild and in the wider musical community were approaching normal levels, after the past 8 depressing months, but I cannot. Yes, activity has been on the increase in some quarters — to my knowledge, there have been a few organ recitals presented in the suburbs this fall (for example, the nearby Westchester AGO chapter held a "Rising Stars" recital and a members' recital, proving that live events ARE indeed possible even in late 2020). When I started my service as Dean a few months ago, I had hoped our chapter could be among those moving forward, as much as possible, with live programming; I deeply regret that I have thus far been unable to facilitate any live events in the Brooklyn chapter this season.

One thing which *has* happened is the launch of the Brooklyn AGO YouTube channel, which features several of our members (including Yours Truly). Many thanks to Nick Martellacci for fielding and uploading submissions, and to each of the performers. This project was originally conceived (at least in part) as an attempt to make up for the May 2020 Members' Recital after its cancellation, and while a YouTube upload is a poor substitute for a live performance, the channel has its own merit as an online venue for the musicianship of our members, and publicity for chapter activity. I encourage those of you who haven't already done so to submit a recording for inclusion, as new videos are being uploaded on a rolling basis. (At this time, to avoid copyright issues, selections should be in the public domain; otherwise you must show that you have the appropriate license for the work.)

One event with which we *will* be moving forward is the annual Scholarship Competition, scheduled for Saturday, March 13, 2021 at Plymouth Church in Brooklyn Heights. It is my hope that additional events will come to fruition in the early months of 2021, despite the challenges and roadblocks heretofore encountered. The absence of any events in the fall of 2020 means that our expenses have been lower than usual; however, it also means that we have not had the usual opportunities for scholarship fundraising. At the start of this season, the calendar committee had proposed a November members' recital with a Veterans Day theme, which would have been one of the scholarship fundraisers. Because of limited time for organization, limited interest when discussed with the board, and a bit of uncertainty about our ability to secure an appropriate venue willing to host on the proposed time frame, this event didn't move forward. Nevertheless, if you are in a position of financial ability, donations to the Scholarship Fund are always appreciated.

Once again, it is my sincere hope that we can pick up steam and get this train rolling in the early months of 2021, even if there is still an air of unease, and even if fewer people than usual are likely to be in attendance at events. (For any who may object to live events being scheduled during the course of a pandemic — even with the usual precautionary measures that most events have — I remind you that no one who feels uncomfortable is under an obligation to attend.) As I wrote in my previous Dean's Letter, our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by COVID-19 and related matters in any way: disease, death, economic hardship, or mental health issues. Stay tuned for emails about upcoming events (if and when we are able to confirm such plans), keep practicing your musicianship, send in a video for the YouTube channel, and, inasmuch as possible, do not let the present climate stop you from living a meaningful, fulfilled, and musical life.

Very truly yours,
Thomas Hobson Williams
Dean, American Guild of Organists Brooklyn Chapter

From the Editor

Membership Directory

By now you should have received your copy of the 2020 Membership Directory. If any information is out of date, please go online to update your personal record. If you don't have access to the internet, reach out to me with the changes and I'll make the updates for you. I want to thank former Registrar (and current Sub Dean) Gary Di Franco for the help he provided in familiarizing me with the online database. I'd also like to thank Thomas Hobson Williams, Ellen Wright, and Eric Birk who proofread the Directory prior to going to press.

YouTube Channel

On Sunday, November 1, the Brooklyn AGO YouTube channel launched. Thanks to all who contributed their performances: Thomas Hobson Williams, Raymond Trapp, Dr. John A. Wolfe, Jared Lamenzo, Lana Krakovskiy, Kell Julliard, and Nick Martellacci.

Please feel free to send along any performances you'd like to share. You have a few options: (1) send me the video via DropBox; (2) give me download access to your online video and send me a link; or (3) simply send me a link to the video. If you choose Option (3) your videos will appear on the Other Videos from Our Members playlist rather than on the Home page.

By submitting a video or link we assume that you intend for us to publish it on our channel. You may request removal of a video at any time.

Advertising

To help defray the costs of printing and mailing our newsletter (to members without email), ballots, and directory, the Board has approved the solicitation of paid advertisers beginning in 2021. We will accept ads from any vendor providing services that might be of interest to our members. **N.B.** *We will continue to include members' flyers and concert listings in the quarterly Bombarde at no charge.*

Ads will appear in 4 issues (one year) of the Bombarde and our annual Membership Directory. The pricing will be as follows:

Business Card	\$10
1/4 Page	\$15
1/2 Page	\$25
Full Page	\$40

Advertisers should mail payment checks to our Treasurer, Eric Birk (3111 Broadway, Apt 3C, NY, NY 10027) and email .JPG files of their ads to me at: nm11201@aol.com.

NY State COVID Tracking App

From the NY State COVID Alert page:

“To stop the spread of COVID-19, New York needs each of us to do our part. One way you can help yourself and your community is by participating in our newly launched mobile contact tracing app COVID Alert NY.

COVID Alert NY is a voluntary, anonymous, exposure-notification smartphone app. You will get an alert if you were in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19. Knowing about a potential exposure allows you to self-quarantine immediately, get tested and reduce the potential exposure risk to your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and others.

The more people who download COVID Alert NY, the more effective it will be. Help protect your community while maintaining your privacy. The free mobile apps—available to anyone 18 or older who lives, works, or attends college in New York or New Jersey—are available for download from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store. COVID Alert NY is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Bengali, Korean, Russian and Haitian Creole.”

Please share this information with your family, friends, and congregations. The link for the app page appears below:

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-alert-ny?gclid=Cj0KCQiA48j9BRC-ARIsAMQu3WT4Rh44D1cY7a0JVxHwktStlPh8azfuaFNwqscXcQZrHOrc4l4JoKwaAmyqEALw_wcB

Bombarde Editor

I'm still looking for someone to replace me as Bombarde editor.

Financial Statements

BROOKLYN CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

End of Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Statements

Income and Expense Report for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

INCOME

Member Dues		2,068.00
Contributions		
Unrestricted (General Support)	120.00	
Restricted - Geo. R. Mathison Scholarship fund	3,079.00	
Restricted - Bach to Brooklyn Fund	44.00	
Restricted - POE Scholarship Fund	20.00	
Restricted - POE Fund	0.00	
Total Contributions		3,263.00
Event Admissions		1,430.00
Banquet Reservations		<u>715.00</u>
Total Income		7,476.00

EXPENSES

Contribution to AGO National		250.00
Scholarship Comp. Exp. Reimbursements (No Prizes Paid)		1,015.60
Bach to Brooklyn		1,841.96
Recitals		1,366.49
Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza Event Expenses		328.94
Office Expenses (Printing, Postage, Website/GSuite, supplies)		249.17
Banquet Expenses		<u>811.83</u>
Total Expenses		5,863.99
Income over Expenses		1,612.01

BROOKLYN CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
Statement of Financial Position for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020
(Balance Sheet - Unaudited)

ASSETS

Designated (Restricted) Funds

George R. Mathison Scholarship Fund	4,130.00
POE Scholarship Fund	120.00
POE Fund	<u>60.00</u>

Total Designated (Restricted) Funds 4,310.00

Undesignated (Unrestricted) Funds

Subtotal Assets (Checking Account Statement Balance as of 6/30/2020) 16,539.02

Checks outstanding (5.34)

Dues Receivable as of June 30, 2020 378.00

Contributions Receivable as of June 30, 2020 50.00

TOTAL ASSETS **16,961.68**

LIABILITIES

Outstanding Bills, Loans, etc. 0.00

FUND BALANCES

Opening Balance 7/1/2019 15,390.67

Revenue Over Expenses for Fiscal Year 2019-20 1,612.01

Total Fund Balances 16,961.68

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES **16,961.68**

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Birk
Treasurer, 10/5/2020

GIA Publishing Rolls Out Unbound

I am passing along an announcement from GIA publishing regarding their new resource called *Unbound*. Full disclosure – I have a vested interest in this as my texts are among those that appear online and I certainly hope that you will take time to explore them. But I also hope that you will explore texts and tunes by my colleagues at GIA – wonderful new congregational music is being written now as we look forward to a return to singing in the future. And if you are looking for something to record for the YouTube channel, this would be a great place to look.

So here is GIA's announcement:

GIA Publications, Inc., is pleased to introduce *Unbound*, a new online resource for congregational song. Texts and tunes from GIA's vast repository of hymnaries by established writers like Mary Louise Bringle, Delores Dufner, OSB, Jacque B. Jones, David Bjorlin, and Adam M. L. Tice, as well as tunes by composers like Sally Ann Morris, Randall Sensmeier, and Benjamin Brody are available by individual download for the first time. New releases are regularly added, introducing a variety of new voices. Downloads include full accompaniment scores and congregational boxes for reprint in conjunction with a ONELICENSE account. Visit www.giamusic.com/unbound to preview the offerings.

Submitted by Jacque Jones

2019-2020 Contributors

The Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists gratefully acknowledges contributions made from July 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 by the following:

General Contributions

Gary Chapman
Jacque B. Jones
Kurleigh Lowe
Edward Radonic
Alex Violette

George Mathison Scholarship Competition Fund

Organizations

Verizon Foundation (matching grant)

Individuals

Keith Bigger
Eric Birk
Lemuel Copeland
Gary Di Franco
Grace Hackett-Faroul
Anzie Fraser
Iris Felice Harris
David Hurd
Lana Krakovskiy
Jared Lamenzo
Nick Martellacci
Craig Whitney
Karine Amy Williams

Bach to Brooklyn Fund

Eric Birk
Jared Lamenzo

POE Scholarship Fund

Jared Lamenzo

The Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is recognized as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and contributions to it are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

On the Lighter Side...

A Lutheran Limerick

An Augustine friar named Martin
A spirit-led faith he was -startin'
"The Bible is neater
Than coins for St Peter
And so from Rome's church I'm departin!"

Got a funny to share? Send it along and we'll publish it!!

Calendar

11/10/20 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

12/06/20 - 4:00 PM
Carol Sing Online
Grace Lutheran Church
(via Zoom)

01/12/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

02/09/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

03/09/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

03/13/21
Scholarship Competition
Plymouth Church

04/13/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

05/11/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

06/08/21 - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting

Board and Officers

Dean Thomas Hobson Williams
Sub-Dean Gary Di Franco
Treasurer Eric Birk, FAGO
Secretary Ellen Wright
Registrar Nick Martellacci

Executive Board

Class of 2021

Robert Frisby
Kurleigh Lowe
Angelina Ngo

Class of 2022

Henry Brooks
Alan Stenzler
Alex Violette

Class of 2023

Davian Alleyne
Kell Julliard
Doris Schultz

Substitute List

Robert Agis	(347) 429-0088
Don Barnum	(917) 689-2953
Samantha Bassler	(570) 594-1066
Henry Brooks	(718) 916-6730
John Collis *	(718) 797-5473
John Conner	(201) 945-8579
Gary Di Franco	(917) 626-7760
Henry Lee *	(626) 709-7635
Nick Martellacci *	(718) 624-5665
Maria Rayzwasser *	(347) 598-4571
Doris Schultz	(718)-730-0084
Alex Violette	(718) 873-5912
Thomas Hobson Williams *	(404) 403-7492
John A. Wolfe *	(717) 253-2886
Ellen Wright	(917) 693-7158

* = No Sunday AM

Flyers

*Community
Carol Sing
Online*

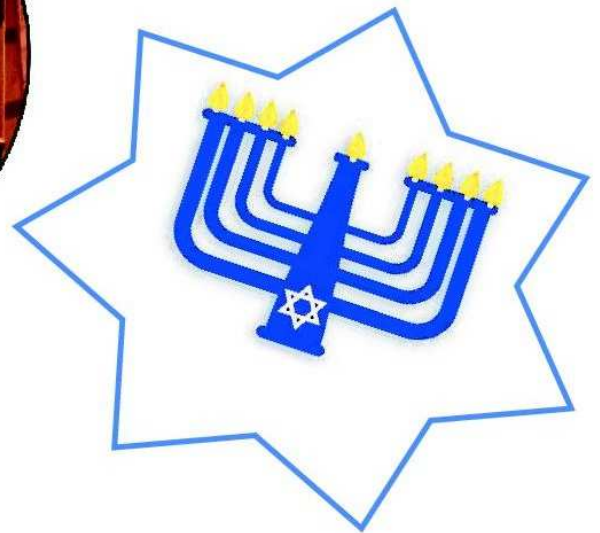
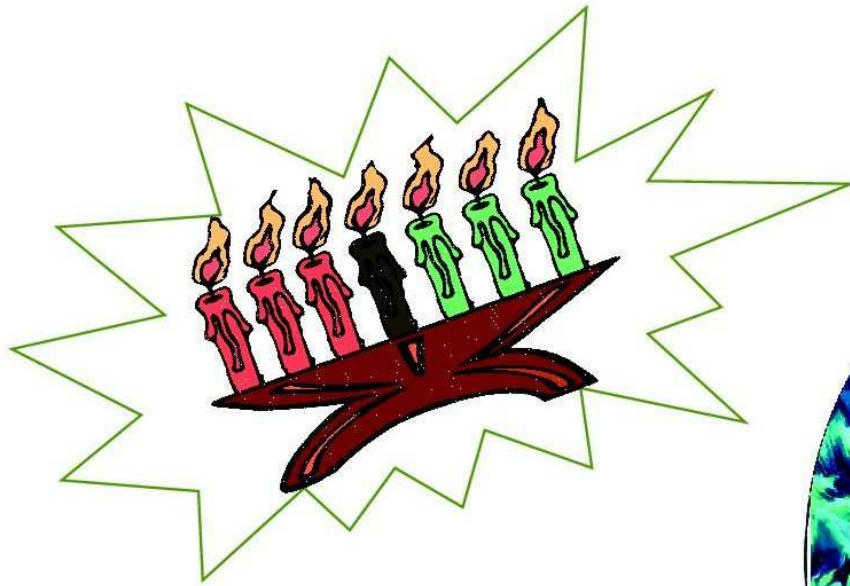
**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 6, 2020
4:00 PM**

Sponsored by
Grace Lutheran Church
Forest Hills, NY

Featuring Music Director
Nick Martellacci
performing on his
Allen Quantum Organ

*This Zoom event is limited
to 100 devices.
Please email
2020carols@gracefhny.org
to reserve a spot!*

Background Photo by Annie Spratt



**Best wishes for a blessed holiday season
and a happy and healthy New Year!**