



The Brooklyn Bombarde

The Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists March-April, 2006

Onward and Upward

By Donald C. Barnum, Jr., Dean of the Chapter

The Brooklyn Chapter continues to grow and improve. Three items of special interest prove this, and I want to share them with you. First of all, our long awaited Chapter Directory should now be in your hands. As one of our board members pointed out, it is really more than a directory; it is a handbook.

<http://www.pipes4organs.org/>

And so it is. I left the project in the capable hands of Timothy Chun, who added the National AGO Code of Ethics and Professional Standards. How many of us sign our membership application forms without really thinking about what is in these two documents. Now you all have received them, and can refresh your memory at your leisure. There is also a list of people at our national office, should you ever need to reach them. All very handy. As well as interesting organ artwork. The whole layout of the booklet is very professional looking and artistically satisfying. Now you can reach your colleagues without having to look in other sources or on scraps of paper, as I have been doing. Hallelujah!

This is a visual advancement, and the second is an aural advancement. We had the best members recital in my memory. Thanks to Gregory Eaton, organist and choirmaster (and actual general factotum) at St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, we had proper publicity, so we had our largest audience in my memory -- certainly more than I expected, and excellent playing. People had ample time on the instrument, and, with the new console and multiple combination memory, the playing of each member was the best that I have heard them do. There was a wide variety of styles and pieces, from Buxtehude to Calvin Hampton, with the marvelous "March of a Dead Marionette" by Charles Gounod (made famous by Alfred Hitchcock) as the icing on the cake. Besides a large pile of programs which were snapped up by the near capacity group in the nave, several applications for the Guild were taken. Hopefully, they will be filled out and returned.

Which brings me to the third point. Members of our board, especially our treasurer, Dr. Steve Danziger, have been very concerned with increasing our membership. There is an initiative from National headquarters to make it financially worthwhile for chapters to do this. Over two years ago, we got one of these awards, and we want to improve on that. So we have formed a membership committee to work on finding new members, and getting old members to rejoin. Any help that you, our members, can give us on this project would be greatly appreciated. Simply get in touch with me, or one of the committee members: Joe Extejt, Hope Engelsen, Dr. Steve Danziger, Sylvester Nichols, or John Cuniffe. We have a special cut rate for the rest of the year.

There is a fourth item that is a little in the future. This is our new website: www.brooklynago.org. Tim did some wonderful groundwork on design and content, but we decided we wanted more features, which our sub Dean and communications guru, Jonathan Hall, found at another server. Once the switchover from the old server is completed, the site will be updated and functioning. From this site you will be able to e mail members of the board, access a mother lode of pictures of chapter events, check on substitutes, etc. All very helpful. Once this is done, I feel that we as a chapter are now ready to face the 21st century. Lets hope that we are also ready as individual organists, and promoters of the King of Instruments.

Officers, Board Members and Appointments,
2005-2006

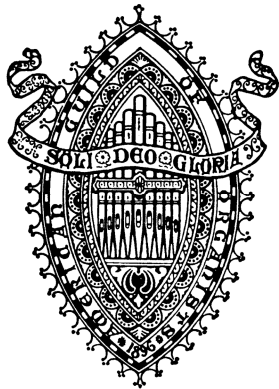
Officers for the 2005-2006 program year:

Dean: Donald C. Barnum, Jr. 212-799-6944
Sub-Dean: Jonathan B. Hall, FAGO 718-633-2197
Treasurer: Stephen Danziger, MD, 718-398-3980
Secretary: Hope Engelsen 718-836-1751
Registrar: Joseph Extejt 516-982-0103
Prof'l Concerns: Gregory Eaton 212-924-4963
Archivist: Keith Bigger 718-875-1858, x160
Placement: Julian Goodwin, AAGO 718-875-3542
Chaplain: Fr. Thaddeus Grzelak
Webmaster, Newsletter Editor: Jonathan Hall

Class of 2008: Tim Chun, Keith Bigger, Roger Castellani.

Class of 2007: Sylvester Nichols, J. David Williams, Rick Dennen.

Class of 2006: John Cuniffe, Gregory Eaton, Joseph Extejt.



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 approximately
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Upcoming and Ongoing

CHAPTER-SPONSORED EVENTS

Sunday, June 5. Our chapter holds its next and final official event, our end-of-the year banquet. See article this issue for details.

PROGRAMS OF OUR MEMBERS

Every Wednesday, 1:10 PM. Free Recital at the Church of Saint Ann and the Holy Trinity, Montague and Clinton, the Heights. Usual recitalist is *titulaire* Gregory Eaton.

Mon. April 3, 7:30 PM. Dr. Francis Greene lectures on the Holy Eucharist in Sacred Music and Art. Dr. Michael Kaminski and the St. Francis X. Choir. Saint Francis Xavier Church, 225 Sixth Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11215

Sun Apr. 23 5 PM. Evensong on the Octave of Easter, Christ Church, Clinton and Kane Sts. Cobble Hill Robert Vogel, organist. Choirs of Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, PA, and St. Charles Borromeo.

Sun May 7, 2006 3:00 PM. The Canby Singers in Concert. St. Charles Borromeo RC Church, Sidney Place, Heights. Donald Barnum, organist and choirmaster.

Mon May 15 7:30 PM. Organ recital: An Evening of Old Favorites and Transcriptions. Michael Kaminski, organist. St. Francis Xavier, 225 Sixth Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11215. Contact 718-836-6872 or 718-638-1880 for further information. Or e mail MKorganist@aol.com.

We encourage all members to support one another by attendance at such programs as they can make. Bring friends, too!

The Chapter Calendar, Official Events, and "Co-Sponsorship"

A Clarification from Your Board

At our monthly board meeting on February 28, we discussed the idea of "co-sponsorship" of musical events by the Chapter. There had been a request to have a service of worship listed as a "co-sponsored Brooklyn Chapter Event." After discussion, it was re-affirmed that all members are all warmly encouraged to support one another and to attend such events as they can. However, as far as "co-sponsorship" of one of these, any change to our official calendar requires board discussion and vote, and should be requested three months in advance.

Also, the American Guild of Organists is a non-sectarian, educational organization chartered by the Board of Regents of the State University of New York. Although it is composed mainly of church musicians and supports their work, its nature is strictly non-denominational. We intend for our programming to reflect that.

We regret any confusion or erroneous past announcements, including in our new Chapter Directory calendar of official events, and appreciate your flexibility as we seek to better serve the most diverse town in America.

END-OF-THE-YEAR BANQUET: SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2006

That's **Pentecost Sunday** for many of you! As of this writing, we will almost certainly be going to a DIFFERENT La Sorrentina's than last year...to their flagship location near Regina Pacis. It looks nicer, affords more privacy, and is more conveniently located than last year's spot. Plan now for the evening of June 5. It's so close to your Sub-Dean's home, who knows, he might hold an after-banquet Cordial Hour. If you're good.

Substitute List

Direct all inquiries and corrections for this list to Julian Goodwin, Placement Officer, at 718-875-3542. No exceptions, please—including for any changes in status. For permanent positions, see the National website, www.agohq.org.

- Ellen Wright 718-625-3903
- Julian Goodwin 718-875-3542
- Mark Victor Smith 718-728-7038
- Sylvester Nichols 718-493-0445
- Roy Prescod (no Sun.) 718-253-8498
- Robert Vogel (no Sun.) 718-727-9864
- Andrew Violette (no Sun. AM) 718-821-6055
- Jonathan Hall (no Sun. AM) 917-596-4002
- Don Barnum (no Sun.) 212-799-6944

Get Ready, Get Set, ChicAGO!

Please register for the National Convention this July in Chicago! Go to www.agohq.org or see your latest TAO for details!

An Update on Our Website

It's still in process, but progress continues. We have had our technical setbacks, but hope to launch our official new website soon. Till then, go to agohq.org/chapters/brooklyn.

RETURN ADDRESS:

Jonathan Hall
4916 11th Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11219

MAIL TO:

Put this on your fridge with a magnet!

Chapter Elections: Coming Soon to Your Mailbox!

Chapter Banquet, June 5.

ChicAGO National Convention, July 2006.