

Dec. 1985

### TWELFTH NIGHT

Sunday, January 5, 1986, 7 p.m.  
(following All Saints Lessons and Carols)

The Salisbury Mansion  
Lancaster and Highland Streets, Worcester

We will celebrate the end of our busiest season in inimitable style this year in the aristocratic elegance of the restored Salisbury Mansion. Stephen Salisbury II will be present to welcome us (through some *Twilight Zone* miracle) and will later "come alive" for us in a one-man theater presentation. Docents will offer tours of the festively decorated rooms and Diane Loomis will fill the mansion with the music of the harp.

Because of the fragile nature of much of the restorative work, the Curator of the Mansion asks that the following guidelines be observed:

- No smoking
- No spike heels, please
- Please bring only white wine and foods that are non-crumbly, sticky, or otherwise messy.

Admission, as always, is a bottle of wine and or something edible for the groaning board. Non-members pay \$1. As noted above, please bring only white wines.

### DEAN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As I write this, I am listening to a tape of Simon Preston's immaculate performance of Bach's E-Flat Prelude and Fugue, recorded at Mechanics Hall on April 21. He is but one of the luminaries of our own smallish organ world who have graced the city this year. Gillian Weir, Bernard Lagace, Nicholas Kynaston, Robert Glasgow, Gustaf Leonhardt, Roberta Gary, Marie Claire Alain, Francis Jackson, and Peter Hurford have all performed and taught here in the past year. Worcester is the center of an organ renaissance in the United States. No more eloquent proof could be offered than a question posed to me during the Fuller Festival by one of Boston's most delightful (and adventurous) organists. (By adventurous, I mean that she is one of a handful who dares to cross Rt. 128 into this rough and uncharted area.) Quite seriously she said, "Couldn't we work out something cooperatively with Boston; I mean we have some good organs, too." Of course Boston has good organs and good organists. And there are just as many world class performers visiting Boston as Worcester, and there are just as many recitals in Boston as in Worcester. But, Worcester has a developing awareness of organ music that Boston does not have. This is partly due to a fact that is often seen as a disadvantage - we are smaller. Awareness is more easily developed in a city of 200,000 than it is in a city of 2,000,000. A bigger share of the credit however must go to that veritable iconostasis of "big name" organists who have worked in Worcester for so long to raise standards and consciousness. And, of course, the other lion's share goes to you - the active and involved professionals who may never achieve "superstar" status but who prepare yourselves thoroughly before sitting down at the console on Sunday mornings and then proceed to make good music.

That is, of course, if we are up to our professional responsibilities. If we are not, then we should drop out of the AGO and, for the sake of our instrument and our profession, never play the organ in public again. One reason we are not as respected as we should be is because there are a lot of pseudo-organists out there who should have their hands and feet chopped off for the atrocities they regularly commit. We have no business associating with them or supporting them. Similarly, there are an awful lot of organs whose pipes (or transistors) should be melted and poured down the throats of builders who claimed to be making musical instruments but who were, instead, just making money.

Fortunately, in Worcester, these kinds of organists and organs are in the minority. And thus, the renaissance.

On December 8, we will celebrate the newest unfolding of that renaissance as Our Lady of the Angels Church dedicates its new, magnificent Walker organ. It is the jewel in the crown, as it were, of an extensive renovation and will enable this, the largest Roman Catholic parish in the city, to develop a superb music program. Father John Bagley is to be commended for the vision he has demonstrated in all of his work at what we fondly call "O.L.A."

His vision is one we all share, and, as we rush headlong through the holidays and into the new year, let us make it our resolution to see that his vision, now growing, flourishes and sets down roots that are strong and will endure in this place for a long, long time to come.

A happy Advent, a happy Christmas, and a happy New Year to you all - you whom I daily rejoice to call colleagues and friends.

Richard

### OTHER NEWS

Stanley Hanson, Organist/Choir Director at Park Congregational Church in Worcester is the new Placement Director. Stan's phone number is 617-481-3196.

Congratulations are sent to long time AGO member and former Chaplain Father Andre Dargis on his appointment as Dean at Assumption College.



CHRISTMAS



USA 22  
Luca della Robbia, Detroit Institute of Arts

PHOTO: JOHN CHAMBERLAIN  
 JANUARY 5, 1985  
 FOLLOWING EXAMINATION  
 (P.A.C.)  
 ON WAS A WONDERFUL SUCCESSFUL  
 BY JOHN FORBES AND BERNARD  
 CHURCH IN WORCESTER

## PLACEMENT

**Barre, MA** BARRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ORGANIST/DIRECTOR  
(pipe organ) 1 Service - 1 Choir. Send resume to: Martha Tufts, Music Committee, Congregational Church, Barre, MA 01005

**Leominster, MA** ST. MARKS EPISCOPAL, ORGANIST/DIRECTOR  
(E G & G Hook tracker...excellent condition ) Applicant should have knowledge of liturgical music.  
Send resume to: "Organist" 11 Cotton St., Leominster, MA 01453.

**Worcester, MA** BURNCOAT BAPTIST, ORGANIST/DIRECTOR  
(Moller pipe organ) 1 service, 1 choir. Contact: Elsie Sjoblad at 869-2978

**Grafton, MA** UNITARIAN CHURCH, ORGANIST/DIRECTOR  
(tracker pipe organ) 1 service , 1 choir... choir rehearses before service on Sunday only, no week-night rehearsals. Contact: Bradford Adams at 757-3334.

## NEWSLETTER NEWS

The Newsletter Letter Search Committee, comprised of Tom Rosiello and Lois Toepfner, has done its job admirably and, with this issue, we welcome our new Editor, Will Sherwood. Many Executive Committee members are also helping to facilitate this publication, among them Lucia Falco with a monthly update on our programs and Jean Davis with a Professional Concerns Column. Paul Roy is editing the monthly calendar and Placement Director Stan Hanson will provide us with the latest job openings as well as exam news. Therese Gemme will handle personal news and Tom Rosiello will keep us informed concerning new Guild Members. Henceforth, the Newsletter deadline is the 15th. of every month.

## Nothing received after the 15th will be published in the next Newsletter.

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All **calendar announcements** should be typed on 3" by 5" **index cards** with the information as it should appear in the calendar. Please be brief, but complete. These announcements should be sent to Paul Roy, 700 Pleasant Street, Worcester 01602.

All other information should be sent to the office at Mechanics Hall, from which it will be dispersed to the proper people.

Items for any department that are received after the 15th will **NOT** be published in the next Newsletter.

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Worcester Chapter monthly meeting was held on November 4, 1985 at the home of Thomas A. Rosiello. Present were: Dean Richard F. Jones, Lucia Clemente Falco, Beatrice C. Daby, Paul Roy, Lois Toepfner, Karen Wielsma, Stanley Hanson, Therese Gemme, Jean Davis, Suzanne Davis Connet. Excused Allen Langord. Absent, George Schaeffer.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Acc't. Balance Oct. 31	\$1,125.51
Shearson/Lehman Amer. Express Sept. 29, 1985	\$3,816.00

The Dean appointed Lois Toepfner and Tom Rosiello Newsletter Search Committee and it was agreed to give them full permission to go along with the newsletter and to coordinate guidelines. Much of the latter was discussed and organized at this meeting.

It was brought to the attention of the Board that many Chapter members have not sent in their **1985-86 dues** to Treasurer Allen Langord, 15 Overlook Drive, Southborough 01772.

The proposal for Worcester to host the 1990 National Convention has been sent to National. In the event we are turned down, it has been suggested that we bid for the 1991 Regional Convention.

Submitted by  
*Beatrice C. Daby, Secretary*

## SUB-DEAN'S REPORT

Our season has gotten off to a running start, program-wise, with two traditional events. The Pastor/Organist Banquet and Service, held at Christ the King Church, was an enjoyable evening with a delicious meal and an inspiring talk on Pastor-Organist relationships by AGO Region I Professional Concerns Chairman Dr. Victoria Sirota. To conclude the evening, a beautiful service of Vespers was offered by Father Paul O'Connell, Director of Music Mark Dwyer, and the Choir of Christ the King Church. We are fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience this fine performance of organ and choral music in such a prayerful setting.

You could say that our Fall Crawl this year included everything but a visit from the Great Pumpkin. Despite the fact that we got off to a late start (due to some unforeseen circumstances), the day rolled along successfully, thanks to the patience and expertise of our bus driver, Everett Mangsen, who very ably maneuvered the full Trinity Lutheran Church bus around Boston's crowded streets and found some very creative places to park it (!) Our special thanks go out to Trinity Church, Pastor Kennedy, Steve Long, and Everett Mangsen for making the day possible. (A special treat was hearing and seeing the not-so-often-visited 237-rank Aeolian Skinner at the Mother Church, Christian Science Center.)

Our third program this season was a wonderfully successful Choral Workshop, conducted by Joyce Hokans and Brenda Fraser Caldwell at Trinity Episcopal Church in Shrewsbury. The subject was the Volunteer Choir, and some topics included tone production, warm-ups, vocal exercises, repertoire, rehearsal techniques, and other valuable information. Thanks and praise to these two experts in this field, whose imagination, personality and talent all contributed to a thoroughly inspiring learning experience for the 30 of us who attended. Thanks also to Karen Wielsma and Lois Hagberg, who took the time to arrive bright and early that morning to provide us with coffee and pastry.

Concluding the weekend was another event at Trinity Church in Shrewsbury, a fine concert of music for organ and oboe by Paul Roy, organist, and Lynne Enman, oboist. This program was a memorial to Donald Ireland, a long-time friend and supporter of the AGO and organ music.

Coming up next in our lineup for the year will be our Annual Twelfth Night Party on Sunday, January 5, 1986. This opportunity to unwind after the holiday frenzy will take place in the elegant Salisbury Mansion, and will feature some special entertainment (more details elsewhere in this newsletter). Hope to see you there!

Lucie

## GUILD EXAMS

We hope that many of you are planning to take a Guild Exam this year or next. Classes covering important points tested are being planned, but we need to know what the interest is before final arrangements can be made. Please phone exam Chairman Stan Hanson at 481-3196 by January 3, 1986 if you are preparing for any of the following exams: Service Playing, CAGO, AAGO, ChM, or FAGO.

Studying for and passing guild exams will not only provide you with valuable skills, but also added recognition within the AGO. Any certificates or degrees earned may be helpful to you in your negotiations for salary increases in your current position or for any new positions for which you are applying.

We strongly urge that you consider preparation for the guild exams. Your Worcester Chapter will do everything possible to help you obtain the skills you need to pass these exams.

## PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

What attributes would best characterize the American Guild of Organists three to five years from now in the best of all possible worlds?

This is the question all of your Regional Chairmen and National Council members were asked to consider and eventually narrow down to three attributes each. This was the basis for our strategic management meeting during the October Council meeting in Detroit where we were hosted by the Detroit Convention '86 Committee. The purpose was aimed at designing the organization as adequately as possible to meet the specific needs of its membership. The entire process began with each of us submitting our three ideal attributes for the Guild's future to a non-AGO business management professional a week in advance of our time together. It was his task to coordinate the ideas, and to present them to us so that we decide as a group if each was appropriate and/or if any needed to be changed, eliminated or expanded to encompass more area. Such detail, we thought! How can you expect us to concentrate so specifically on what we are all about, anyway? But, once we realized we weren't getting out of that room until we had completed our work (four hours later), we then became serious about ourselves as the American Guild of Organists.

At any rate, to make an already too long story a bit shorter, here are the five extremely significant (! feel) attributes which your governing body has assigned to its purpose for the next three to five years. These five came out of an original list of 35 collected attributes, and here list them for you in order of importance determined by the 17-member council:

1. AGO seen as an influential professional organization internally and externally, and as a leader in church music, organ instruction, and professional life.
2. AGO advances appreciation for historical standards of music while embracing a variety of tastes and styles.

3. AGO develops a set of professional standards (non-musical) concerning employment (reciprocal), including a higher standard of wages and compensation that matches education and competence, and creating closer ties with our employers so that the Guild may impact policies of employment and working conditions.

4. We would market ourselves more effectively to present and potential constituencies including an aggressive advertising campaign to let arts communities and the general public know that the Guild exists.

5. AGO would influence seminaries to ensure that their training acquaints all clergy with importance of high quality in music and with important issues in this field of church music.

How pleased I am that I had this opportunity to share some of the national level "goings-on." It really is a very energetic, sympathetic, and inspired group of people that are involved with the organization's policy and function. I am honored to be among them.

*Brenda Fraser Caldwell*  
Chairman, Region I

## A NOTE ON MEMBERSHIP

To all new guild members... **WELCOME!** We haven't forgotten you. In our next newsletter our new members of 1985 will be properly introduced.

## BULLETIN BLOOPERS

*In a festival service bulletin from Hyde Park several weeks ago:*

"O Taste and Sea" R.V. Williams

## CALENDAR

- Wednesday, December 4 12:00pm** **"Handel's Greatest Hits"** A "Brown Bag Recital" featuring Mark Dwyer performing on the Hook Organ. Margaret Tartaglia Konkol, Soprano. Mechanics Hall.
- Saturday, December 7 8:00pm** **Handel's "Messiah"**. The Worcester Chorus & The Worcester Orchestra. Gerald Mack, Conductor. Sponsored by the Worcester County Music Association. Mechanics Hall. Tickets:\$10.50,\$9,\$7 (Students & Seniors). Plante Tickets, 617-752-0888.
- Sunday, December 8 2:30pm**
- Saturday, December 7 8:00pm** **Nashoba Valley Chorale**. Saint-Saens "Christmas Oratorio", Barrie Mosher "The Christmas Rose". Will Sherwood. First Church of Christ, Lancaster
- Sunday, December 8 8:00pm** **Nashoba Valley Chorale** Union Congregational Church, Groton. Tickets:\$5,\$3,Seniors Free.
- Sunday, December 8 11:45am** **Blessing & Dedication of the Walker Organ**. Paul Roy, Organist. Assisted by the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir. Joseph Policelli, Director. Our Lady of the Angels Church, 1222 Main St.
- Sunday, December 8 8:00pm** **Dedication of the relocated & enlarged E.M. Skinner Organ**. John Weaver, Organist Old South Church, Boston.
- Monday, December 9 8:00pm** **Vienna Choir Boys**. Special Program for Christmas. Mechanics Hall. Tickets:\$12,\$14 Box Office 752-0888.
- Tuesday, December 10 7:30pm** **Lessons & Carols** presented by the Assumption College Choirs. Dr. Michelle Graveline, Director. Thomas Holland III, Organist. Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Assumption College.
- Wednesday, December 11 12:00pm** **"Brown Bag Recital"**. Lucia Clemente-Falco at the keyboard of the Worcester Organ. Works of Widor & Liszt. Mechanics Hall.
- Wednesday, December 11 7:30pm** GianCarlo Menotti's **"Amahl and the Night Visitors"** and Vivaldi's **"The Seasons"**. The Salisbury Singers with the Salisbury Chamber Orchestra. Malama Robbins, Conductor. Joseph Konkol, Director. Mechanics Hall. Tickets:\$5,\$3, Reserved Seating Plante Tickets, 617-752-0888.
- Thursday, December 12 7:30pm** **Choral Concert** presented by The St. Paul's Cathedral Festival Choir. Joseph Policelli, Director. Nichols College, Dudley.
- Friday, December 13 7:00pm** **Carol Sing**. Music provided; gooey, crumbly, messy edibles welcomed (just don't spill). Comet Gallery Exhibit. Sherwood Residence, 171 Rowley Hill Rd., Sterling. 422-7195.

Friday, December 13 8:00pm **Holiday "Pops" Concert.** The Central Mass. Symphony Orchestra, Harry Levenson, Director, with the Boston Concert Dance Theatre & Worcester State College Chorus. Mechanics Hall. Tickets:\$12,\$10 754-1234.

Saturday, December 14 8:00pm **The Assabet Valley Mastersingers** perform Handel's "Messiah". Robert Eaton, Director. St. Luke's Church, Westboro.

Sunday, December 15 3:30pm **The Assabet Valley Mastersingers** First Church, Congregational, Marlboro. Tickets:\$12,\$8, available at the door.

Sunday, December 15 10:00am **Saint-Saens "Christmas Oratorio"**. Carol Baum, harp. Will Sherwood, organist/director. Pakachoag Choir with string orchestra. Pakachoag Church, Auburn.

Sunday, December 15 4:00pm **Choral Concert** presented by The St. Paul's Cathedral Festival Choir. Joseph Policelli, Director. Holy Rosary Church, Gardner.

Sunday, December 15 5:00pm **Festival of Lessons & Carols.** Wesley United Methodist Church Choirs. LeRoy Hanson, Director. Wesley United Methodist Church.

Sunday, December 15 5:00pm **Messiah Sing.** Trinity Episcopal Church, Shrewsbury. 842-6040 or 845-6454.

Wednesday, December 18 12:00pm **"Brown Bag Recital"**. Joseph Bertolozzi, Organist, performs a Christmas program on the Worcester Organ. Mechanics Hall.

Thursday, December 19 7:00pm **Annual Christmas Concert.** Pakachoag Music School Student Recital & Concert. Kallin Johnson, Director. Pakachoag Community Music School, 191 Pakachoag St., Auburn.

Sunday, December 22 3:00pm **The Boston Camerata.** Joel Cohen, Director. "A Renaissance Christmas". Mechanics Hall. Tickets: \$14,\$12, Box Office 752-0888.

Sunday, December 22 3:00pm **The Salisbury Singers** perform a program of traditional holiday favorites arranged by Robert Shaw. The Worcester Art Museum. 799-4406.

Sunday, December 22 5:00pm **Choral Evensong for Advent.** First Baptist Church Choir. Barclay Wood, Organist & Choirmaster. First Baptist Church.

Sunday, December 22 5:00pm **A Victorian Christmas American Style** presented by The Boston Chamber Soloists. Christ Church, 569 Main St. at Monument Park, Fitchburg. Advance registration suggested. Call 342-0007, limited seating.

Sunday, December 29 4:00pm **Lessons & Carols for Christmas.** St. Paul's Cathedral Festival Choir. Joseph Policelli, Director. St. Paul's Cathedral, Chatham & High Sts.

Tuesday, December 31 noon to midnight **"FIRST NIGHT" PROGRAMS** Downtown Worcester.

Sunday, January 5 5:00pm **Lessons & Carols for Epiphany.** All Saints Church Men & Boys, Girls Choirs. Ronald Stalford, Organist & Choirmaster. All Saints Church, Pleasant & Irving Sts.

Sunday, January 5 7:00pm **"12th NIGHT"**. Host: Stephen Salisbury II. Chamber Music for Harp. The Salisbury Mansion, Corner of Lancaster & Highland Sts. **ADMISSION:** White wine, or non-crumbly, gooey, messy edibles.

ADDENDUM:

Friday, December 20 8:00pm **Open "Messiah" Sing.** Christmas portion, "Hallelujah" and "Amen" choruses. Michelle Graveline, Conductor Ronald Stalford, Organist  
A limited number of scores will be available for rental. Bring your own if you have one. Admission: \$3 to benefit the Assumption College Chorale.

WORCESTER ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

A special television program celebrating the anniversaries of Bach, Handel, Scarlatti, and Schutz will be aired on Channel 13 (Worcester Cable) on December 9 at 9:00pm and on December 13 at 3:30pm. This documentary is sponsored by the Worcester Ecumenical Council in cooperation with Greater Media. A segment of the program will feature a performance by Paul Roy on the Walker Organ at Pakachoag Church. Dr. Michelle Graveline, Joseph Policelli, LeRoy Hanson, and Stephen Long will also participate in an interview.