



CAPE COD and
the ISLANDS CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD of ORGANISTS

June 2023

Greetings!

As my term as Dean draws to a close, I am grateful to each of you for the health and resiliency of this chapter and the opportunity to get to know and work along side a great group of colleagues. We have weathered a lot of change since I first came on the board four years ago as Sub-Dean. We managed to complete our full year of programs (except Annual Dinner) in 2019-2020, completing a chapter event just a week before the pandemic put an end to in-person gatherings! We learned how to stay in touch, first by Zoom or outdoor gatherings, then by events with COVID precautions in place. We have established a monthly e-newsletter and are working on an updated website. At a time when some chapters are struggling to remain viable, we have welcomed new members, offered varied and interesting programming, and affirmed a slate of board members who will help chart our course to a promising future. Together with dedicated leaders and an engaged membership, we can continue to “foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ!”

Sincerely,
Deb

May 7th Recital by Heinrich Christensen

The chapter sponsored an organ recital by Heinrich Christensen (pictured here with Deb Gemma, Dean, and Donna Murphy, Host) on Sunday, May 7th at West Parish in West Barnstable. The program was bookended by Passacaglias and Fugues by Bach and Florence Price; and also included works by Daniel Pinkham, James Woodman and Iain Farrington. Attendees had the opportunity to meet the artist at the reception that followed. Thanks to Donna Murphy for hosting and Cheryl Duerr and her team for implementing this stellar event.



Cape Cod and the Islands AGO 2023-2024 Program

Mark your calendars for these chapter events!

October 7 (Saturday)	32nd annual Nantucket Organ Crawl Members and significant others receive \$20 discount off group ferry cost.
November (Saturday) TBA	Workshop St. Peter's Osterville
January 5 (Friday), 2024	Potluck and Yankee Swap St. Mary's Barnstable
February 11 (Sunday)	Hymn Sing - Alleluia! Corpus Christi, Sandwich
April 28 (Sunday)	Organ Plus Dennis Union, Dennis
June 2, (Sunday) June 9, (Rain)	Fun annual gathering and meeting location and activity TBD
Summer	Stay tuned for summer 2024 events and further details of these events.

Your 2023-2024 Chapter board is working very hard to bring you exciting programming for the coming year.

Please watch your email for the Chapter Newsletter and further information on these events.

If you would like to help with any of the above events, please contact Cheryl Duerr cduerr@holyredeemerchatham.org or Richard Bunbury rbunbury@me.com

Nantucket Organ Crawl - October 7, 2023

***You're playing that on the organ!?!
Music transcriptions for the organ***

The 32nd Annual Nantucket Organ Crawl
Presented by the Nantucket Community Music Center

Featuring Nantucket's six mechanical-action pipe organs (built from 1835 to 2001)

Stroll to the five churches in historic Nantucket for 20-minute concerts (Baroque music to the latest in video game music themes – and more!!).

Saturday morning, October 7, starting at 10 a.m. – Free Admission

Additional information to follow.

Announcement of Election Results

The annual election of chapter leadership took place May 1-15 via email. The slate has been unanimously elected; congratulations and thanks to all who will be assuming or continuing

leadership roles! Thanks to all who took the time to vote and express their support for our colleagues. New terms begin on July 1st; outgoing, incoming, and continuing members of the board will be working together this month to assure a good start to our future activities.

Dean	Cheryl Duerr	One year term, <i>pro-tem</i>
Sub-Dean	Richard Bunbury	1st term, 1st year (2 year term)
Treasurer	Gary Mazzola	1 st term, 2 nd year (2 year term)
Secretary	Charlene Higbe	1 st term, 2 nd year (2 year term)
Class of '24	Maggie Ribb	One year (filling unexpired 2nd term)
Class of '26	Paula King	1st term, 1st year (3 year term)
Class of '26	Jeff Mereschuk	1st term, 1st year (3 year term)

Other board members continuing duly elected terms are Mark Lawlor, Class of '24, and Joe Hammer, Class of '25.

Thank you to Deb Gemma!

Thank you, Deb Gemma, for your 4 years of hard work as Sub Dean and then Dean. You tackled some prickly problems no one else wanted to tackle and served your terms with dignity and grace. I especially appreciate the principled leadership you brought to our chapter and your caring for every single chapter member as family.

*With respect,
Cheryl Duerr
Incoming Dean*



Dues Renewal

Thank you for your membership in the Cape Cod and the Islands chapter of the AGO! After several years with no increase, the cost of dues will be increasing effective July 1, 2023, which is the renewal date for the majority of our chapter members. More information about the increase can be found in the April edition of The American Organist journal, on page 14.

E-Newsletter Summer Schedule

Our monthly e-newsletter has past the one year mark! Thanks to Maury Castro for getting it up and running, and to our newsletter editor Brittany Lord for faithfully producing and distributing it each month! Please note that there will be no edition of the newsletter in July. The newsletter will resume with an August edition in time to publicize your fall concerts and kick-off events. Please submit all entries for the August newsletter to capeago@gmail.com by July 20th. Feel free to send posters (jpg format) or just plain text about your event in the body of an email. Thank you!

Upcoming Local Events*

Matthew Dion, Organ Recital

Wednesday, August 9th, 7:00pm
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Chatham

[Click here for complete information.](#)

Sunset Events - St. Andrews by the Sea, Hyannis Port (all events at 5pm)

June 18 - Choral Evensong, sung by the Choir of St. Christopher's Church, Chatham, Maury Casto, conductor, Mark Lawlor, organ

July 9 - Chatham Chorale Chamber Singers, music of Ronald Perera & others
Joseph Marchio & Margaret Bossi, conductors, Christopher Babcock, organ
(suggested donation \$20)

July 23 - Ensemble Passacaglia, early music performed on period instruments
(suggested donation \$20)

August 20 - Choral Evensong, sung by the Choir School of Newport County (RI)
Peter Stoltzfus-Berton, conductor, Patrick Aiken, organ

September 10 - The Surftones, gentlemen singing "a capella"
(donation to their scholarship fund requested)

[Click here for complete information.](#)

Upcoming Regional and National Events

AGO Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Convention

July 3–6, 2023
White Plains, N.Y.

[Click here for complete information.](#)

Max Reger Festival 150: Hosted by the Worcester Chapter of the AGO

November 3-5, 2023
Worcester, MA

[Click here for complete information.](#)

Positions Available

Organist of the Day for baseball games: The Worcester Red Sox, AAA affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, are looking for organists to play for games in Polar Park in Worcester. For more information and to arrange an audition, contact Paul Barrette at pbarrette@woosox.com.

This communication is sent on the 1st of the month, or shortly thereafter. Please submit events by the 20th of the month to be included in the following month's email. Send announcements with complete information in the text of an email, including relevant website links, to Cheryl Duerr, dean and Brittany Lord, newsletter editor, at capeago@gmail.com.

**Local and regional events are received and included in our communications as a member benefit for AGO members only.*

[Visit our Website](#)