

The Clarion



Newsletter of the Fairfield West Chapter AGO

Published 11 times per year September through July/August

Volume 24 Number 1

September 2019

Fairfield West Chapter Events 2019-20

Saturday, September 28 at 6 PM **Chapter Fellowship Event**

Home of chapter member Lisa Martin
And
Casavant Opus 3234
Details about the event, the organ,
and the address on Page 2

Saturday, October 19 at 1 PM and Evening Concert

Connecticut Choral Festival

First Congregational Church in Old Greenwich
Co-sponsored by Fairfield West Chapter AGO
Details and music to be sung on Page 2

Date TBA – January **Epiphany Party**

Site to be announced

Date TBA – Late April **Conducting from the Console Workshop**

Featuring Dr. Andrew Henderson,
Madison Ave. Presbyterian Church, NYC
Site to be announced

June 7, 2020 – Time TBA **Annual Business Meeting and Social**

Bertucci's Restaurant, Darien

Stephen R. Lewis, *Dean*
203-227-4795/203-451-7415 cell
Le73@optonline.com

Oyeniran Oyedeji, *Sub Dean*
203-748-3320 o/678-478-1909 c
oyeniranojedeji@immanueldanbury.org

Alma Hamilton, F.A.G.O., *Secretary*
203-322-1669 c
hamiltonaajh@gmail.com

Andrew Gordon, *Treasurer*
203-938-1539 h/203-869-2395 w
arkel@aol.com

Michael Burnette, *Class of 2020*
203-227-0827
mburnette@chtwestport.org

Victoria Shields, *Class of 2020*
703-899-8567 c
vshields@me.com

Robert Kwan, *Class of 2021*
rkwan1977@gmail.com

Frederick Tripodi, *Class of 2021*
Rickmatt@optonline.net

Leslie Smith, *Class Of 2022*
Leslie@roundhillcommunitychurch.org

David Johnson, *Class Of 2022*
203-207-0379 h/203-637-2447 w
david.johnson@stpaulsriverside.org

Craig Scott Symons, *Class of 2022*
203-637-1791 x 822
craigs@fccog.org

Dr. Sean M. Jackson, *Webmaster*
drseanjackson@gmail.com

Editor *Clarion*
Vacant

Chapter Webpage address:
<http://www.fairfieldwestago.com>

CHAPTER EVENTS

Saturday, September 28 at 6 p.m.

Our first chapter event will be social gathering at the home of Lisa Martin, a chapter member who lives in Greenwich. As hinted in the events listing on the first page, she is in possession of a Casavant Pipe Organ. Here is part of her description of the instrument:

“This contemporary Casavant organ is well traveled. After having faithfully served its original congregation in Pennsylvania, it was removed when the church was demolished. Then it was installed in a private home in New Hampshire where it remained until its owner passed away. Its next stop was in Washington, DC where it served as an interim instrument.

Now this organ resides in a sympathetic acoustic in Greenwich after having been rebuilt and enlarged tonally, technically and architecturally. The organ’s resources include a Principal chorus, a mixture, a secondary chorus, exquisite flutes, a cornet, all crowned by vibrant reeds. Each of its stops is a worthy solo voice yet each of them blend in myriad ways. Taken together, all of the stops coalesce into a cohesive ensemble. This musical instrument is a treat for the eyes and the ears and its possibilities are limited only by the boundaries of one’s imagination”

An invitation will go to members closer to the event. Lisa’s residence is at: 14 Bailiwick Woods Circle Greenwich CT 06831

Saturday, October 19 at 1 PM and Evening Concert

Our October event as co-sponsor with First Congregational Church of Greenwich will be The Connecticut Choral Festival. Here is more information from board member Craig Symons:

The Connecticut Choral Festival will be held at First Congregational Church in Greenwich on Saturday, October 19 from 1 - 5 p.m. for rehearsal, meal, and evening concert. Our guest conductor will be Tom Trenney, Minister of Music at First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. This festival is sponsored by the United Church of Church Musicians Association and Fairfield West Chapter of the AGO.

The repertoire Tom has chosen is as follows:

- The Music of Living- Dan Forrest
- If Ye Love Me- Philip Wilby
- Let Us Not Become Weary- Benjamin Kornelis
- Love- Elaine Hagenberg
- Keep Your Lamps. arr. Andre Thomas
- Walk Together Children- African-American spiritual/ arr. Moses Hogan
- I Will Make a Way- Tom Trenney

Approximate cost for all works is around \$15 and should be purchased on your own through your preferred music distributor. Meal cost will be \$10. Tom may include another “war horse” public domain work, but that remains undecided right now. And there will be a couple of congregational hymns. Please come to the day having learned your music in advance so Tom can mold the choir with the mastery he brings to us.

Tom has been a personal friend since 2002, when he and I were serving congregations in suburban Detroit. For 9 years, I was privileged to sing with sounding light, a professional choral ensemble in Detroit that Tom still directs. During that time, his depth of the choral art combined with his humility as a conductor produced some of the most memorable musical experiences in my career.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at craigs@fccog.org or call the church 203-637-1791 ext 822

Chapter members and their choirs are invited to take part in this festival.

CALENDAR –September 2019

Saturday, September 7 at 6 PM

Concert - Choir of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, UK
Including music by Victoria, Hassler, Parry and Britten
Free entry, with a freewill offering
Christ Church, 254 E Putnam Ave, Greenwich

Friday, September 13 at 7 PM

Gospel Night – Featuring members and guest artists to raise funds for Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Music Ministry. \$5 Admission. Food and fellowship before and after. Emmanuel Lutheran Church Sanctuary, 18 Clapboard Ridge Rd., Danbury 06811.
www.ImmanuelLutheranchurchandschool.org

Saturday, September 28 at 6 PM

Chapter Fellowship Event - Home of chapter member Lisa Martin – See description on Page 2.

Sunday, September 29 at 5 PM.

Angel Voices – A Choral Concert for the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, sung by the St. Paul's Choir, John Abdenour, director, Edward Tipton, organ, with professional brass quintet and timpani. Great hymns and anthems in celebration of angels, including music of Bairstow, Elgar, Tchaikovsky, Victoria, and the world premiere of "A Sequence for St. Michael," by John Abdenour. Reception following the concert. Admission donation requested \$20. Tickets available at the door or at www.stpaulsfairfield.org. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 661 Old Post Road, Fairfield. Free on-street and Town Hall lot parking. Handicap accessible.

Other Events

September 27-29, 2019 –

Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival Hartford

Now in its 23rd season, the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival Hartford brings some of the world's best young organists to Hartford to perform – and compete – on the renowned 4,429-pipe Austin organ at Trinity College Chapel in Hartford.

This year's Festival events include:

Friday, September 27, 2019, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Music for Grand Organ and Orchestra: Acclaimed organist Christopher Houlihan joins the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Carolyn Kuan conducting, in the Opening Concert of the 2019 Festival. A pre-concert talk begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Admissions Building, near the Chapel. Tickets are \$35-\$55 at <http://bit.ly/Grand-Organ>

Saturday, September 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Young Professional Organist Competition: All competition events are open to the public. The competition will be judged by renowned organists Diane Meredith Belcher, Thomas Murray, and John Rose. At 4:30 p.m., the winner of the competition presents a solo recital. At 5:00, all are welcome to enjoy a service of choral evensong, during which the Chapel Singers of Trinity College join with the choirs of St. James's Episcopal Church and St. John's Episcopal Church. At 6:00 p.m., the three finalists compete once more, this time vying for the \$2,500 David Spicer Hymn Playing Award. All events on Saturday, September 28 are free and open to the public.

Sunday, September 29, 2019, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Music for Grand Organ and Orchestra: An encore performance of the September 27 concert. All events take place at Trinity College Chapel, 300 Summit Street, Hartford. More details about all the Festival events, competitors, judges, and more, including information for parking at Trinity College, are here: <https://www.asofhartford.org/competition-2>

The Waterbury Chapter AGO would like to invite AGO members from adjacent chapters to participate in our Youth Choir Festival with Gabriel Lovfall on **March 14, 2020**. Since this involves Purchasing Music and teaching it to children/youth, we are also having a workshop Saturday September 14 at First Congregational Church in Bristol to introduce the chosen music to you.

Repertoire list – Waterbury Chapter American Guild of Organists Youth Choir Festival – March 14, 2020

Gabriel Lovfall, director

Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above – Jodi Lindh (Chorister's Guild CGA583) (Unison and optional handbells)

Everywhere I Go – Natalie Sleeth – (Chorister's Guild CGA171) (2 pt)

Pie Jesu – Mary Lynn Lightfoot (Heritage Choral Series 15/1227H) (2 pt)

Tumefurahi – Dave and Jean Perry – (Chorister's Guild CGA1462)

This Little Light of Mine – Mark Patterson – (Chorister's Guild CGA1108) (2 pt)

God Is Always There – Toni Sullivan – (Chorister's Guild CGA1590) (Unison)

How Can I Keep From Singing? – Paul Halley – (Pelagos PEL2034) (SSA) You may contact Bill Degan to get this music (dblopen32@gmail.com) since there is a 40 copy minimum when ordering from Pelagos. Please contact Toni Sullivan (sullivannt@gmail.com) to express your interest in the festival.