

CRESCENDO

JUNE 2011

VOLUME LXXIII, NO. 10

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

IN THIS ISSUE...

JUNE CHAPTER EVENTS	1
DEAN'S LETTER	2
<i>David Beatty, Dean</i>	
CRESCENDO STAFF INFORMATION	2
REGISTRAR'S CORNER	3
PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER AGO:	3
Offices and Committees Directory	
CHAPTER PATRONS	4
CHAPLAIN'S CORNER	5
POSITIONS AVAILABLE	6
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	9
SUMMER CARILLON CALENDAR	13
SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST LIST	14
TUESDAY NOON RECITALS	15
TALE PIPES	15

Just Give me a June Night, the Moon Light, and You!

Rudy Lucente, Sub-Dean, Rudolph.Lucente@agophila.org

Philadelphia is the place to be, and this June is the month for fans and friends of the organ. We (and many colleagues in the musical community) have a fantastic schedule of events available for you to take advantage of, and here they are!

Saturday June 4 – come help us celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Dobson organ in Verizon Hall. The Kimmel center, in conjunction with our own chapter, will be collaboratively presenting music and demonstrations for a diverse audience of all ages from 12:00 noon until 4:30 p.m. Many of our own chapter members will be speaking and/or playing during this time. This will be followed by a presentation of Jazz Vespers in honor of the late Philadelphia jazz organist Trudy Pitts, who had performed on the Verizon Hall organ herself.

Friday June 10, 6:30 p.m. – Plan to come to our annual dinner and membership meeting, during which we will announce election results. We are returning to Greek Hall at Macy's by VERY popular demand, with its restored Wurlitzer theater organ. The organ will be available for members to 'take for a test drive,' and there will be a MYSTERY GUEST performer! Finley Catering will again be providing an excellent dinner, and the Grand Court Organ Recital for the day will take place at 5:30 – 6:15 in order to accommodate our dinner schedule. Details about this event will be mailed to our membership.

June 22 – 26 – June will end with a constellation of stellar events honoring the hundredth anniversary of Philadelphia's landmark Wanamaker Organ. **Please visit the website of the Friends of the Wanamaker Organ for complete and up the minute details and opportunities to register for the few events that require prior registration: www.wanamakerorgan.com.** Many chapter members will be part of this momentous tribute – here are just a few highlights:

- The actual day of the anniversary is June 22nd and plans are being finalized for a big mid-day concert and tribute
- Peter Richard Conte will be a key part of many of the performances and presentations throughout the week
- Jill Pasternak and WRTI will be broadcasting live from the console on June 25, Wanamaker Organ Day
- Day-long programming is planned for the Saturday celebrations, including the Philadelphia Brass at 5:00
- Sunday June 26 will feature Rick Seifert and his sound-and-image tribute to the organ

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CRESCENDO, the official bulletin of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is published monthly, September through June. **All material for publication must reach the Editor by the 1st day of the month preceding the date of issue**, eg. November 1 for the December issue.

This must be type written and e-mailed (text supplied in an attachment), or mailed. A hard copy should be included for display ads. Submissions become the property of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AGO and will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. CRESCENDO reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Articles in Crescendo reflect the views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Guild. All advertising must be arranged through the Advertising Manager.

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Visit our website at www.AGOPhila.org

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D E A N ' S L E T T E R

1. Vision Task Force
2. In the groove or in a rut
3. Singularities



VISION TASK FORCE

Soon after the books had been balanced following our chapter's hosting of the 2002 National Convention, a dedicated group of chapter leaders established a task force to consider the future of the chapter. Buoyed by the success of the convention, and empowered with the financial resources of our endowment newly augmented with the chapter share of the convention surplus, the chapter was "in the catbird's seat" for embarking on a new venture. The report of the vision task force was accepted by the Executive Committee in June of 2006.

Unfortunately, as happens far too frequently, the subsequent years were not accompanied with translation of that vision into execution. The economic downturn a few years later impacted our endowment investments, much as any of your 401k investments were affected. Through the normal election cycle, officers changed and Executive Committee membership cycled. In the midst of this, the report of the Vision Task Force was forgotten.

Under the prudent management of our Endowment Committee, I am happy to report that the endowment is once again strong, and continuing to grow. Even with membership dwindling somewhat over the last decade, we remain blessed with many resources, and are poised to undertake the vision. Undertaking the vision requires more than its advocacy by the Dean. It also requires the shared support of the chapter membership. Without volunteers from the entire chapter, we cannot staff the realization of this vision.

Since many of you may be unfamiliar with, or have forgotten, the recommendations of the task force, let me take a portion of this final Dean's Letter to convey them, in hope that you may assist the next administration in realizing this vision.

The recommendations of the task force are graphically summarized in a pyramid.

Level One: "Sitting alone at the top of the pyramid is the vision for bold public visibility of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter and its mission ... Our best efforts at any programming the chapter may offer are futile unless there exists a strong public awareness of who we are and what we have to offer."

The recommendation of the Vision Task Force is for the chapter to consistently commit its energy through finances, volunteers, and elected officials towards a variety of means of connecting with individuals and groups in the public sector in order to advocate the art of the organ."

Level Two: Supporting the top of the pyramid are three areas outlined in the mission statement: education, professional development, and performances.

Level Three: "Affirmation of our current [i.e., 2004-2006] level of excellence in activities and leadership"

Level Four: "Consistent support for an ongoing vision for our chapter. Our chapter leadership is a revolving door of elected officials, each of whom brings to the chapter his or her own unique gifts and strengths. As people come and go from our chapter's leadership, it is vitally important for us to encourage our leadership to envision a strong future on a pathway that incorporates wisdom from the past with awareness of current and future needs. The task force began discussions about two possible considerations in this area: the creation of an Executive Director position for the chapter; or the formation of a standing committee of people appointed to extended terms to oversee the chapter's vision. Realizing that

REGISTRAR'S CORNER

J O E L E W I S , R E G I S T R A R

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

At publication time we stand at 374 members.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

You should have received your personalized renewal form by now in the mail. If you have not, inform me ASAP so that I can send another. And please confirm your present address when you do, so that we can check that your address is current in the database.

Here's a reminder of our membership categories:

REGULAR (Voting member)	\$92
SPECIAL (Voting member)	\$67 (age 65 & older, under 21, or disabled)
FULL TIME STUDENT (Voting)	\$37 (copy of valid school ID required)
PARTNER (Voting)	\$67 (2nd member at same address, no TAO)
DUAL (Voting)	\$36 (list the Primary Chapter on form)
DUAL STUDENT (Voting)	\$15 (list the Primary Chapter; ID required)
CHAPTER FRIEND (Non-voting)	\$45 (non-organists; organists and choral conductors are not eligible; no TAO)

Also, on the membership form is a place to check to indicate you again wish to appear on the chapter's Substitute List for the upcoming 2011-2012 year. You should also check in with the Coordinator, Allen Popjoy, to confirm your intentions with him. **Remember that each year the list begins anew, so YOU must tell us you wish to be listed**, and you must be a member in good standing to qualify.

ELECTION

As you know, after the election a new Registrar will soon take over in my place. For nine years I have served in this position and have learned a great deal in that time. Back when I first started I didn't even know how to generate and print mailing labels, but have done hundreds of label sets since then, and have faithfully tracked so many members' professional and personal lives as part of this wonderful chapter. I wish to thank you very much for the opportunity to have served you, to have worked with the many dedicated Officers and Executive Committee members over the years, and to hopefully have established confidence in the records kept by our chapter. I would especially like to commend the great work of those who have served with me since I started back in 2002: Treasurer Jerry Troy, who still maintains our financial records and who together assisted me in getting all of our many Dues Reports to the AGO HQ; to Ria Ellis, who has served as Secretary, generating wonderfully detailed accounts of all meetings; and to Roy Harker, who assisted so professionally in creating the yearly Membership Directory and often provided tech advice for me for so many projects. But thanks must also go to the multitude of members who volunteered so often when asked, and to those who always contributed above and beyond their yearly dues. Please know that you really made a difference for all. I wish you the best of luck in the future.

Joe Lewis Registrar@agophila.org 610-935-0895



PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

ELECTED OFFICES

DEAN	
David Beatty	215-518-1025 David.Beatty@agophila.org
SUB-DEAN	
Rudolph A. Lucente	610-584-5054 Rudolph.Lucente@agophila.org
TREASURER	
Gerald Troy	610-626-5486 Gerald.Troy@agophila.org
SECRETARY	
Maria deJ. Ellis	610-896-6189 Maria.Ellis@agophila.org
REGISTRAR	
Joe Lewis	610-935-0895 Joe.Lewis@agophila.org
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	
Roy Harker	215-222-3831 Roy.Harker@agophila.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Frank Orman	610-409-2529
Susan Petura	610-380-5957
Paul Marchesano	215-287-8955
TERM ENDING 2012	
Riyehong Hong	215-386-0234, x122
Stephen Schreiber	215-283-0417
Karen Whitney	215-424-8450
David Christopher	302-654-9729
TERM ENDING 2013	
Robert P. Gallagher	610-764-5411
Ralph Purri	610-789-2354
Caroline Robinson	864-561-7695
Harry S. Solomon, Jr	215-342-3448

APPOINTED LEADERSHIP

CHAPTER CHAPLAIN	
Rev. Bruce Thorsen	215-230-3980 Chaplain@agophila.org
COMPETITION COMMITTEE CHAIR	
Alan Morrison	215-360-8336 Alan.Morrison@agophila.org
ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR	
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Lee deMets	215-997-0219 Lee.DeMets@agophila.org

HISTORIAN / ARCHIVIST

To be appointed

NOMINATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

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PLACEMENT COORDINATOR

Allen Popjoy	610-269-7069 Allen.Popjoy@agophila.org
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Judy Lang	610-623-8069 Judy.Lang@agophila.org
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TUESDAY NOON RECITALS COORDINATOR

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Loretta Hartnett	610-352-5441 Loretta.Hartnett@agophila.org
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-------------	--

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Tom Lever	215-855-0287 webmaster@agophila.org
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NATIONAL COUNCILLOR for CONVENTIONS

Dennis Elwell	215-877-2744, x4 Dennis.Elwell@agophila.org
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

J O S E P H L E W I S , R E G I S T R A R

Want to join the Philadelphia chapter of the American Guild of Organists?
Need to report AGO Directory changes on your current membership?
Need to purchase a set of chapter mailing labels for your next music event?

Contact Registrar Joe Lewis at: 49 North Spring Lane, Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-935-0895 Registrar@agophila.org

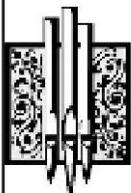
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(list updated monthly)

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

REV. BRUCE THORSEN
CHAPLAIN@AGOPHILA.ORG

This past year I have been reflecting on hymns written during war times. These hymn writers have written out of their profound faith, sharing how they were able to live and have being during a time of great uncertainty. It came to mind that one of my organ teachers in college, Jan Bender, had lived through both World Wars.

Jan was born in Haarlem Holland, but after his father's death his mother moved back to her parents' home in Lübeck. He began piano lessons and then was drawn to the organ in his early teens. He said in an interview that it was the organist at St. Mary's Church, where his mother attended, that influenced him to become a church musician. The organist took the time to encourage him and gave him lessons. It was as a teenager that he began composing.

Two other musicians who had a great influence on his life were Hugo Distler with whom he studied organ and composition, and Paul Hindemith. I still remember Jan requiring us to use Hindemith's Craft of Musical Composition in our studies.

He was married on June 21, 1939 and began active military service in August. In August 1941, he was wounded by shrapnel from a Russian hand-grenade which severed his left optic nerve. He was sent home and he went back to work as church musician. Jan thought the war was over for him, but he was called back to active duty in September 1944 and by October was captured by the allies. He spent the rest of the war in a POW camp. In September 1945 he was released.

In a journal that he kept he wrote these words: "It is not easy to leave my loved ones. But God is with them. He comes with me and remains here and binds us together. To Him be praise and thanksgiving for these three years at home. To Him be praise and glory also in the dark or obscure future."

The majority of the music he wrote was based on hymn tunes. In the LBW are 2 tunes written by Jan: *O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth*, the text being written by Martin H. Franzmann, and the other based on the Beatitudes text from Matthew 5. I remember

Jan Bender

February 3, 1909 - December 9, 1994

that at one of our chapel services at Gustavus Adolphus College, our president did a Thanksgiving message using each stanza of *Earth and All Stars*, and Jan had a different introduction for each one.

Wars have some kind of effect on everyone. When I stop and think of what Jan must have gone through and remember seeing and experiencing his passion for music and life, I take pause for I believe it was his faith in God that brought him through the war. The music he wrote for organ, voice and other instruments were for the most part sacred, to further the gospel.

His sense of humor also came out in his music. He wrote an arrangement of Happy Birthday in the form of a waltz. Jan smiled a lot. Through his faith he was able to keep looking forward.

When we have our times of doubting and not knowing what is ahead, remember our fellow musicians who have literally been through the war. Their gift was not lost, but enhanced.

*How blest are those who know their need of God;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Matthew 5*

Chaplain Bruce



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ALLEN POPJOY, COORDINATOR
610-269-7069 ALLEN.POPJOY@AGOPHILA.ORG

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Swarthmore Presbyterian Church
727 Harvard Ave., Swarthmore, PA 19081
(610) 543-4712 www.swarthmorepres.org

The Swarthmore Presbyterian Church is seeking a bell choir director for approximately 7-8 hours per month for approximately 9 months of the year—September through May. Salary is negotiable. Interested candidates please contact Jeff DeVault 610-715-9064 jeffdevault@gmail.com for more information. The bell choir director will rehearse, schedule and direct the bell choir, beginning in September, for all practices at least three Wednesday evenings per month for approximately 1 to 1.5 hours per evening before performances and as needed. The director will also direct the bell choir approximately six Sundays per year during the 10:15 a.m. service (dates are flexible).

ORGANIST

St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church
428 S Main St., North Wales, PA 19454
215-699-4617

Position of parish organist. Responsibilities include three Masses on most Sundays, as well as holidays and special services. Occasional Saturday evening Mass. No rehearsal or choir accompaniment responsibilities. Some weddings and funerals available. Compensation commensurate with qualifications and experience. Prior familiarity with Roman Catholic liturgy preferred. Inquiries should be directed to StRoseOrgan@verizon.net. If e-mail is not possible, please call the parish office at 215-699-4617.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

First Presbyterian Church ("Hilltop Church")
20 Hilltop Road, Mendham, NJ 07945

The First Presbyterian Church ("Hilltop Church") in Mendham, NJ is seeking a Director of Music Ministries beginning in September 2011. This is a part-time position which entails developing, coordinating, and administering effective, vibrant, and comprehensive music ministry programs. All staff members at Hilltop Church are encouraged to seek first the Kingdom of God in their personal lives, and to allow God's will and presence to guide and inspire their ministry and calling at Hilltop Church.

The Director of Music Ministries position, paid according to AGO guidelines, is expected to be a minimum of 15 hours per week. Although higher levels of education and experience are welcomed, the minimum experience

considered for this position is a Bachelor's degree in music and three years of church experience as a music director. The position includes responsibility for playing and directing all music at worship services and special services and directing the adult sanctuary choir, which entails music selection, onsite rehearsals, and presentation of music in worship. Other responsibilities include the direction of the children's choirs, the adult bell choir, and other music ensembles. Sunday morning worship services and children's choir rehearsals require the Director to be on site from approximately 8:00 am to noon. The Sanctuary Choir rehearsals currently take place on Thursday evenings (on site from approximately 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and the adult bell choir currently rehearses on Monday evenings (on site from approximately 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm). The remaining time is intended for planning, preparation, and practice.

The Director of Music Ministries will work with the Senior Pastor to coordinate the overall musical offerings at Hilltop Church. He/she will also be expected to work with the Worship and Music Area of Ministry and other volunteers and staff as necessary to support music in worship and other special music (including seasonal services, concerts, and other offerings). The Director will be expected to encourage the participation of church members in music in order to enhance their worship experience and grow in their faith.

Hilltop is a growing congregation with a love for great music, a committed choir, and outstanding musical instruments. You can learn more about our music, our organ and other instruments, and the overall ministry of Hilltop Church by visiting us at www.hilltopchurch.org. (Just click on the open door to enter the website!)

If you are interested in becoming part of Hilltop's music ministry, please submit your resume to rbheppens-tall@gmail.com. All applications will be held in strict confidence.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
701 S. College Ave, Newark, DE 19713
(302) 368-0064 www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

St Paul's Lutheran (ELCA) Church is seeking a part-time Director of Music. St. Pauls is a multi-generational, music-loving congregation whose new sanctuary is a welcoming beacon to the community. Our congregation is poised for growth in its music ministry.

The Director of Music must have a strong Christian faith and knowledge of, or strong desire to learn, the Lutheran liturgy. The ideal candidate must be proficient in playing organ and piano as well as choral directing. He or she must have strong leadership and communication skills, and be able to work well in a team ministry. Minimum education: BA/BS or equivalent experience. The Director of Music is responsible for the overall

Continued on page 7

Positions Available*Continued from page 6*

music program of the church, including:

- Plays the organ and selects hymns for all worship services scheduled by the pastors. There are two identical Sunday morning services (including a sung liturgy). There are special services for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent and Holy Week .
- Weddings and funerals
- Directs all choirs (St. Paul's Choir, Matins Choir, and Sunday School Children's Choir); schedules choirs for worship services; conducts weekly rehearsals. 3 weekly rehearsals, including 2 on Sunday morning.
- Assesses the music needs of the congregation and implements the modification of existing music programs and/or expansions as needed – children's and teen choirs, hand bell choirs and instrumental music groups.
- Schedules the maintenance of all musical instruments, including pipe organ, pianos, and hand bells. Maintains the music library and abides by all copyright laws.
- Serves as a member of the Worship and Music Committee and assists in developing the annual music budget. Attends weekly church staff meetings.

Compensation

- Hours – 30 hours, with availability to use facilities for private teaching purposes
- Salary and benefits – negotiable, commensurate with experience; four weeks paid vacation plus two weeks for continuing education. Honoraria for weddings and funerals.

Facilities and Support:

Sanctuary renovated in 2010, seats 300, with total Sunday worship attendance averaging 250

Instruments include a 2002 J.W. Walker mechanical tracker action pipe organ; Schulmerich Handbells, 3 octaves; 2 pianos: Yamaha upright and Technics digital; dedicated choir room and Music Director's office. Budget includes funds for music, continuing education, instrument maintenance, guest musicians, etc.

Deadline for application: May 15, 2011; start date: August 1, 2011

To apply, contact John Keating, Senior Pastor.

Email address: stpaulsoffice@comcast.net; Daytime phone: 302-368-0064

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester
501 High Street, West Chester, PA 19380
www.ufwc.org

The Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester is seeking a

choir director for approximately 20 hours per month for approximately 10 months of the year—August through May. Salary Range: \$6,000 – \$7,000. Interested candidates please contact Marie Steel 484-888-1390 music@ufwc.org for audition.

Qualifications

- Degree in Choral Conducting or comparable training and/or experience sufficient to carry out the duties listed below
- Proficient in piano accompaniment to assist choir in learning music during choir rehearsals.
- Fluent in a broad range of music, including knowledge and interest in music from various genre of music
- Experience with teaching vocal technique consistent with the needs of a diverse choir
- Familiar and congenial with the principles of Unitarian Universalism

Duties

- Rehearse, schedule and direct the choir, beginning in September, for all practices at least three evenings per month for at least two hours per evening before performances and as needed for other special choral events specifically Christmas Eve service. Help prepare and have choir perform on Christmas Eve. Direct the choir one Sunday per month during the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services (typically the 3rd Sunday of each month). Have choir prepared for performance of at least three musical pieces for performance at least one Sunday a month for both services.
- Maintain this schedule from September until the end of June.
- Keep Communication to choir ongoing and timely.
- Choose choral music in consultation with the minister and appropriate to worship service and choir expertise.
- Attend periodic staff meetings with minister at a time to be determined.
- Notify office with names of songs and composers for the order of service before each monthly Sunday performance no later than the preceding Wednesday of that performance.

PIANIST/HYMNIST

Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester
501 High Street, West Chester, PA 19380
www.ufwc.org

The Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester is seeking a pianist/hymnist for approximately five hours per week for 10 months. Salary Range: \$5,000 – 6,000. Interested candidates please contact Marie Steel 484-888-1390 music@ufwc.org for audition.

Qualifications

- Degree in Piano Performance, Accompanying, and/or Sacred Music, with significant field experience, or substantial experience sufficient to carry out the duties listed below

Continued on page 8

Positions Available

Continued from page 7

- Knowledgeable and proficient in a broad range of music
- Familiar and congenial with the principles of Unitarian Universalism

Duties

- Prepare and play hymns and songs for two Sunday services weekly September to mid-June, and communicate and collaborate with the minister on all services.
- Attend one choir rehearsal prior to choir Sunday and prepare accompaniments for choir performance once a month.
- Prepare and perform hymns as designated by the minister and prelude, interlude and postlude for Sunday services.
- Accompany congregational singing at Sunday services.
- Accompany and be available for rehearsals for soloists and the Intergenerational Choir who are occasionally scheduled to perform for Sunday Services.
- Play for special services, such as Christmas Eve.
- Notify the office with all information about the music to be performed on Sunday weekly.
- Be available to perform at private weddings, memorial services, dedications, and other similar events on a paid basis.
- Arrange for replacement in the event of absence, notifying office of sub in timely fashion if unavailable on Sunday AM.
- September thru June
- Be available for meeting with music committee twice a year.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church
1680 Aquetong Road, New Hope, PA 18938
www.tmpc.org

This is a full-time position which is currently being filled on an interim basis. The permanent position would be filled in June or July, 2011.

TMPC is a 400-member Presbyterian USA Church located two miles south of New Hope, Pennsylvania. Please visit us on the web at www.tmpc.org for information.

TMPC has an adult choir, youth choir, junior choir, cherub choir (volunteer director), adult bell choir (five octaves), youth bell choir (volunteer director), a hand-chime choir and a week-long summer music camp. Salary commensurate with experience. There is no "benefits package".

Requirements:

- Five years conducting experience with singing choirs.
- Prefer experience with bell and/or hand-chime choirs, but TMPC will arrange for additional training in the use of bells and chimes for the right candidate.
- Minimum of a BS in Music or equivalent.
- Keyboard skills to work with choirs.
- Good communication and leadership skills, working well with all age groups.
- Ability to integrate music into worship with a full understanding and appreciation of the music's religious context.
- Will supervise the organist position and volunteer leaders in the music department.
- A background and drug check will be required.

For more information or to submit your application, contact Ralph A. Powell, Personnel Committee, TMPC, 1680 Aquetong Road, New Hope, PA 18938 personnel@tmpc.org

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PATRICK J. MURPHY
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TIMOTHY M. EVERS, COORDINATOR
610-688-8700, x227 • TIM.EVERS@AGOPHILA.ORG

Sunday, June 5, 2:00 PM

Theater organ concert featuring Rudy Lucente and Glenn Hough on the 3/24 Wurlitzer. Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$5. Info: www.tosdv.org Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA

Sunday, June 5, 3:00 PM

Joseph Alessi, trombone, and Diane Belcher, organ. Free-will offering. St. David's Episcopal Church, 763 Valley Forge Rd, Wayne PA 610.688.7947 www.stdavidschurch.org

Sunday, June 12, 5:00 PM

Cosline/Connors Memorial Concert. Chancel and Children's Choirs perform Durufle 'Requiem' and Halley/Winter 'Missa Gaia'. Mark Laubach, organ, Ken Ulansey, saxophone, Kevin O'Malia, director. Free-will offering. Handicapped accessible. First United Methodist Church of Germantown, 6001 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia PA 215.438.3677 www.fumcog.org/music

July 5-7, 2011

AGEHR Area II Young Ringers Festival, Ron Bellamy Director, Kutztown University. Contact Jackie Anderson anderson@rpa.net 585-265-9054

July 7-10, 2011

AGEHR Area II Festival Conference, Debbie Rice Director, Kutztown University. Contact Jim Rossetti jdrmaestro@comcast.net 412-913-5728

Tuesday, July 12, 8:00 PM

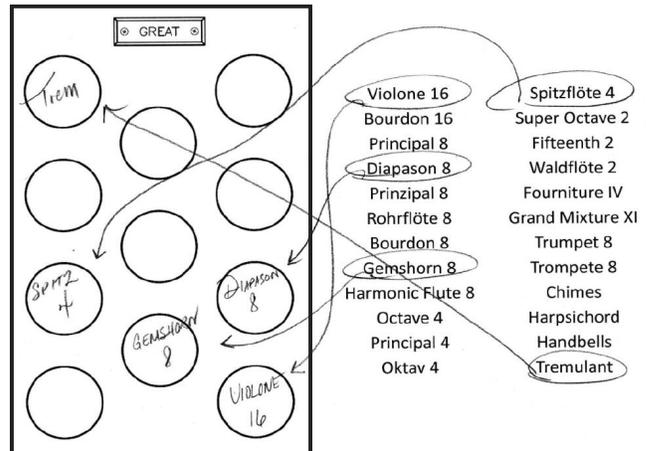
Kevin O'Malia, organist, will accompany silent movies on the 3 manual, 55 rank Casavant organ of St. Thomas Church, Whitemarsh. Preceding his performance will be a carillon recital at 7:00p.m. by Australian carillonneur, Amy Johansen. Besides her duties as carillonneur, Amy holds the prestigious position of University Organist at the University of Sydney, Australia. Information: St. Thomas Church, Whitemarsh, 610 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, PA 19034 215-233-3970 www.stthomaswhitemarsh.org



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Dean's Message

Continued from page 2

the more immediate day-to-day operations of the chapter consume the majority of elected officers' time, the creation of an intentional way to continue to nurture the chapter's vision seems prudent."

So, now that we are in 2011, five years following the acceptance of report, it is vital to assess how we have done in realizing the vision. Regarding "Bold Public Visibility", while we have established a relationship with the Kimmel Center, we have not stepped beyond that to establish relationship with other portions of the public sector. In addition, we have failed to employ wider advertising and varied communications media to make our visibility boldly public.

Regarding the three mission statement elements of education, professional development, and performances, our success has been mixed. The chapter has consis-

the chapter's standing committees has decreased radically, making it difficult to assess that we have maintained the level of excellence in activities and leadership that was present in the early part of the last decade. As the new administration begins, with many new officers, it will be essential to establish standing committees, most notably in communications and programming, to execute the vision espoused in levels one and two. Your volunteer participation and commitment of your own time and energy toward these committees will be essential for the future of the chapter.

Regarding the final level of the pyramid, as you may have gleaned from my introductory remarks, the vision, while accepted by the chapter in 2006, has not been at the forefront of our chapter thinking and execution during the last five years. I have challenged the executive committee to translate this vision into action, and challenge the next administration to continue to support the vision. Unless we translate these words into action, the vision is dead.

Education and professional development remain weak within our overall chapter programming, often eclipsed by performances.

tently supported fine performances, with ongoing programming and the weekly Tuesday noon concerts. The chapter did host a POE in 2006, however, since that time, the chapter programming regarding education has often been limited to the January Jumpstart. As we have been chartered as an educational organization, the educational aspect of our programming should be at the forefront, and most prominent. As the membership, should you see that that our programming is out of balance and devolving into presentation of a concert series, you should be conveying your concerns to the program committee and the elected leadership. In the arena of professional development, while there has been some emphasis in our January Jumpstarts, our chapter has largely deferred to our regional officer, Ethel Geist. While also a chapter member, Ethel's efforts have helped several individuals to develop their skills such that they could undertake a guild examination. Our exam coordinator, Lee de Mets has consistently ensured that we provide a location for these examinations. However, the areas of education and professional development remain weak within our overall chapter programming, often eclipsed by performances. While we certainly do not wish to see a diminishing in the quality of performances, a return to balance of offerings to increase the focus on education and professional development is apropos.

Within the years following the 2006 POE, participation in

IN THE GROOVE OR IN A RUT

I was quite fond of the late William Safire's Sunday New York Times column *On Language*. In a similar vein, I have recently been pondering the similarities and differences between the two expressions, "in the groove" and "in a rut". My search for the origin of the first expression led mostly to speculation. While some individuals claimed that it was related to woodworking grooves, or grooves in timepieces (akin to the origin "nick of time"), others postulated that it was related to the more recent phonograph technology. I have certainly viewed the phonograph image as an appropriate explanation of the expression, whether truly authentic in tracing the origin or not.

Since, for many, phonograph recording are things of ancient history, long since replaced by digital media, a brief description may be warranted. As a phonograph operates, a disk (record) rotates on a turntable and a stylus or "needle" rides within a long groove that spirals in from the outer edge of the disk toward the center. The stylus is moved by changes in the texture of the groove, and through significant amplification and translation, becomes sound broadcast through a speaker system.

Often defective records would cause the stylus to skip out of the continuous groove and into an earlier portion of the groove, causing a repetition of a very short portion of the recording. (This behavior led to another expres-

Continued on page 11

Dean's Message

Continued from page 10

sion: "sounding like a broken record.") However, when the stylus stayed within the groove, and when both record and stylus were impeccably clean and free from dust, the phonograph worked very well, producing a fine audio recreation of an original performance. The stylus was "in the groove" and thus the system was functioning perfectly.

You may also experience times in your own life when you feel that a certain activity is "in the groove". When playing the organ or conducting a choir, there are times when everything goes well. The notes are accurate. The timing is precise. Excitement and energy are communicated between performers and audience. Likewise, there can be similar "in the groove" experiences within organizations. One of the best examples for this chapter is our ongoing January Jumpstart. Katherine Reier and Sue Petura have successively and successfully ensured that this event is largely "in the groove". Each year the event improves with their careful coordination, thus eliminating the "dust" that may cause the record to skip.

By contrast, the expression "in a rut" most often is envisioned when the rut, or depression (or groove) has been created beforehand, and does not represent the way one wants to go now. There may have been a day in which the rut represented the appropriate pathway to follow, but that day has ended. As we perform, we can often get into a rut of playing a piece exactly the same way each time. (Such a rut is especially egregious when it includes rhythmic or pitch inaccuracies.) We can also get into organizational ruts if we assume that the way it was done immediately before is the way we must continue. If we fail to seek to continually improve, we may find that what was once being "in the groove" has turned to being stuck "in a rut".

Once more, I must laud both Katherine and Sue regarding January Jumpstart. No matter how outstanding or "in the groove" the prior January Jumpstart may have seemed, they have continually avoided the temptation to get stuck "in a rut".

As an organization, we as a chapter need to ensure that we do not get stuck in a rut, but aspire to get "in the groove" of the Vision espoused by the Vision Task Force in their 2006 report. Also, on a personal level, I ask you to consider your involvement in the AGO. Are you "in the groove", participating on committees and attending events, or "in a rut"? Likewise, in your professional endeavors, are you continually striving to be "in the groove" or are you "in a rut" and needing some change?

SINGULARITIES

Typically one first encounters the concept of mathemat-

ical singularity during high school. While it may not be explicitly discussed as such, the trigonometric tangent function is singular at the angle of measure 0. Likewise the function $f(x) = 1/x$ is singular at $x=0$. As one continues mathematical study, particular moving into complex analysis, the beauty and power of singularities becomes ever more apparent. Certain seemingly complicated integrals can be calculated with ease in the complex plane, and the integration neatly involves adding the residues associated with the integrand at its singularities (typically in either the upper or lower half plane).

As scholars studied the universe and abstracted their observations into the language of mathematics, thus creating many scientific disciplines, especially physics, astronomy, and cosmology, they realized that the functional representations allowed for singularities. Thus, before ever being observed, the concept of gravitational singularity was proposed within the general relativistic formulation. The existence of black holes was predicted before being observed.

While many of us may have forgotten the details of Riemannian geometry and Ricci tensors necessary to calculate gravitational singularities, we do observe singularities of another kind within the greater Philadelphia area and within our Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. There are several singular organs in the area, such as the Wanamaker Organ at Macy's in Center City Philadelphia. As the largest concert hall organ in the United States, the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ at the Kimmel Center is also a singularity. There are numerous other singular instruments throughout the region, and it is our great pleasure to be able to hear and (for a lucky subset of our membership) to play those instruments.

Likewise, we have a number of singular chapter members. We are blessed to have many chapter members who are able to concertize regularly. Opening issues of *The American Organist*, we find advertising of the country's finest artist representatives featuring many of our chapter colleagues. In addition, we have chapter members teaching at some of the finest training grounds for organists in this country. It has been our good fortune as a chapter to learn from these individuals at January Jumpstarts. However, as this season is drawing to a close, it is important to point out some other human singularities within our chapter. These individuals have been critical to the operation of the chapter over several years.

Joe Lewis has served as Registrar for the chapter since the sudden passing of Jim Slechta in 2002. Joe took on the challenging task of pulling together all the records at that time, and has been a stalwart and reliable steward of the chapter membership for nine years. Having served as registrar for the 2002 Convention, I had a brief glimpse into the type of activity required of a regis-

Continued on page 12

Dean's Message

Continued from page 11

trar. While my work was relatively short-term, Joe was busy year-round, year after year. The volume of work he has performed in nine years is staggering, and more than most can imagine. He has been exemplary in his punctuality and thoroughness in providing information to Crescendo, to the Executive Committee, and to any making requests. Upon his retirement from the position of registrar on June 30, we will certainly miss his attentiveness to the details of his office.

While he retired from his position as Crescendo publisher at the end of the 2009-10 season, Roy Harker is now completing his tenure as the first Communications Coordinator in our chapter history. The chapter created the position in order to oversee all of our chapter communication, including Crescendo, all programs and flyers, the chapter website, publicity for chapter events, and advertising (such as appears in convention program books, in local newspapers, and on radio). Roy's expertise in graphic arts established Crescendo and the chapter website as fine examples of chapter communication.

As this is my final letter as Dean, I thank the chapter membership for their support and encouragement during my two years in office.

Also ending their elected terms on the Executive Committee are Loretta Hartnett, Frank Orman, and Sue Petura. In addition to her fundamental participation on the Executive Committee, Loretta has also served the chapter for several years as its Volunteer Coordinator, keeping track of those individuals willing to share of their time and talent to further the work of the chapter. Without her efforts, we wouldn't know whom to contact when we suddenly needed to conduct a chapter-wide calling of all members! In addition to that role, Loretta, together with Ralph Purri, ably served as co-chairs for the 2011 Nominating Committee. Their efforts resulted in the fine slate of officers for which you have recently voted.

Sue Petura is a monumental singularity within our volunteer leadership. She has cheerfully and diligently taken on the mantle of Katherine Reier to coordinate January Jumpstart. She has built on the chapter's marvelous legacy, and continues to seek ways to make each successive year better than the prior. Although she leaves the Executive Committee, we look forward to her ongoing leadership with January Jumpstart. (I know she is already contacting individuals regarding 2012!)

Appointed to fill an unexpired Executive Committee term, Paul Marchesano has been an incredibly active member of the chapter leadership during his short tenure. Nathan Laube's outstanding concert on the rarely heard instrument at Irvine Auditorium is largely the result of his persistence.

While not leaving the Executive Committee, Rudy Lucente will soon be taking on a new role, and leaving the office of Sub-Dean. During the past year, Rudy has undertaken far more than should ever be asked of a Sub-Dean. With the exception of our January and February events, he has nearly single-handedly coordinated the monthly chapter programs as well as the players and venues for the Tuesday Noon recitals.

Other chapter singularities include our treasurer, Jerry Troy, who continues to keep the financial statements in good order, and our books balanced, and our secretary, Ria Ellis, who records the work of the committee and conveys wisdom associated with her breadth of non-profit experience.

There are many others deserving of thanks, namely all who are listed within the Editorial Board for Crescendo and all those remaining appointed and elected leaders of the chapter.

As this is my final letter as Dean, I thank the chapter membership for their support and encouragement during my two years in office. I have certainly appreciated those that took time to comment on my various Dean's Letters, which were often intended to promote contemplation and dialogue. I recognize that they often may have appeared somewhat perplexing. I am aware that those with short attention spans or those that prefer the 140 character limit of a Twitter Tweet may have found the discourse to be overly verbose. However, just as both Mahler and Mozart symphonies or both Wagner and Menotti operas have places within the repertoire, so do I believe that there is room for extended, as well as concise discourse. Part of the richness of the AGO is that each of us is unique, and is our own singularity. Each Dean of the chapter has been unique and (luckily for Crescendo page count) the next Dean will likely not be as verbose as am I.

May you all have renewing and refreshing summers. While my term of office is ending, I still look forward to sharing with you collegially in the years ahead.

David P. Beatty

Summer Carillon Calendar

Sundays at 3:00 PM

June 5th Steven Ball
 June 12th Andrew Wetzel
 June 26th Thomas Lee and Eddy Mariën
 July 17th Stefano Colletti
 July 24th Toru Takao
 August 14th Carol Jickling Lens

Longwood Gardens

Chimes Tower
 Kennett Square, PA 19348

Mondays at 7:30 PM

June 13th Unusual Duets: Janet Tebbel
 and Bruce McNeel, guitar
 June 20th Hylke Banning
 July 11th Amy Johansen
 July 18th Stefano Colletti

First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Shelmerdine Memorial Carillon
 6101 Germantown Ave
 Philadelphia, PA 19144

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM

July 5th Geert D'hollander; Tower Tours
 July 12th Amy Johansen, A Night at the Silent
 Movies: Kevin O'Malia, organ
 July 19th Family Fun & Frolic, Stefano Colletti
 July 26th Janet & Dwight Dundore Memorial
 Concert: Toru Takao, Jazz Ensemble
 August 2nd Celtic Colours on the Green,
 Lisa Lonie, Irish Step Dancing

St. Thomas Church, Whitemarsh

Catherine Colt Dickey Memorial Carillon
 610 Bethlehem Pike at Camp Hill Road
 Fort Washington, PA 19034

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

July 6th Geert D'hollander
 July 13th Amy Johansen
 July 20th Stefano Colletti
 July 27th Toru Takao
 August 3rd Doug Gefvert
 August 10th Carol Jickling Lens
 August 17th Lee Cobb
 August 24th Music of the British Isles -
 Doug Gefvert and Irish
 Thunder Pipes and Drums
 August 31st Jim Fackenthal

Washington Memorial Chapel

Washington Memorial National Carillon
 Valley Forge National Historical Park
 PA Highway 23
 Valley Forge, PA 19406

Thursdays at 7:00 PM

June 2nd Steven Ball
 June 16th BMPC Carillonneurs
 June 23rd Hylke Banning
 June 30th Robin Austin

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Middleton Family Carillon
 Montgomery Ave, West of Fishers Road,
 Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Friday at 7:30 & 8:30 PM

August 12th Cast In Bronze

Longwood Gardens

Mobile Carillon
 Kennett Square, PA 19348

SUBSTITUTE LIST

ALLEN POPJOY, COORDINATOR
610-269-7069 ALLEN.POPJOY@AGOPHILA.ORG

This list is published as a courtesy to the chapter membership. Only members of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter available for regularly-scheduled services are listed. Although the AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship or reliability of substitute organists, Guild certificates and other programs indicate preparation beyond the minimum.

Substitute	Location	Phone Number
Frederick K. Astmann	Cherry Hill, NJ	856-424-3820
Debra S. Bacak	Sellersville, PA	215-257-0553
Robert A. Bader	Philadelphia, PA	215-413-0326
Dr. David P. Beatty	Hanover, MD	215-518-1025
Cormac J. Brady	Philadelphia, PA	215-921-8640
Dr. Leon Tilson Burrows	Philadelphia, PA	215-924-9593
Doris J. Dabrowski	Philadelphia, PA	215-387-6635
Laurence P. Devlin	Blackwood, NJ	856-419-0110
Tedd Didden CAGO	Ambler, PA	215-646-0294
Joyce Gambrell Drayton	Philadelphia, PA	215-635-5778
Karen B. Fallows	Hatfield, PA	215-822-6762
Ralph E. Fisher	Philadelphia, PA	215-732-1408
Dr. Jeremy J. Flood CAGO	Philadelphia, PA	215-625-2747
Robert H. Frederick	Philadelphia, PA	215-755-7648
Joel E. Klingman SPC	Southampton, PA	215-355-8445
Marianne Lipson SPC, CAGO	Philadelphia, PA	215-923-9132
David Clark Little	Feasterville, PA	215-953-0352
Rodney Long	Sewell, NJ	215-200-8799
Elizabeth A. Manus	St. Davids, PA	610-293-9002
Fr. Glenn M. Matis	Doylestown, PA	215-489-2548
Steven V. Matthews	Lansdowne, PA	516-368-0863
Scott P. Myers	Philadelphia, PA	215-715-1003
Irina Nenartovich SPC, CAGO	Cherry Hill, NJ	856-321-3465
Patricia Nyce	Douglassville, PA	610-689-3797
Kirsten K. Olson	Collegeville, PA	610-764-6264
Wesley D. Parrott	Philadelphia, PA	215-732-6732
Patricia A. Pezick	Blue Bell, PA	610-405-3736
Katherine J. Reier SPC	Abington, PA	215-517-4160
Catherine M. Robinson SPC	Lansdowne, PA	610-626-4429
Rev. Eugene C. Root	Morrisville, PA	215-431-5416
John W. Sankey, Jr.	Deptford, NJ	856-848-3589
Dr. Betty J. Scott	Warminster, PA	215-675-5528
Alexander M. Smith	King of Prussia, PA	610-265-4390
Richard P. Spotts	Doylestown, PA	267-371-2687
Dennis Charles Stevenson	Philadelphia, PA	267-258-9028
Sonata M. Stevenson	Philadelphia, PA	267-344-8263
Janet L. Tebbel	Philadelphia, PA	215-848-3915
Dr. Karen L. Thomas	Yeadon, PA	610-259-1043
Robert Upton	Broomall, PA	610-356-5245
Virginia K. Vaalburg	Glen Mills, PA	610-358-0946
John Van Sant	Trenton, NJ	609-498-1768
Mary Louise Varricchione-Lyon	Doylestown, PA	215-348-9507
Elizabeth C. Walsh	Huntingdon Valley, PA	215-801-8624
Karen Whitney	Philadelphia, PA	215-424-8450
Esther Wideman	Philadelphia, PA	215-687-6258
John M. Woznisky	Paoli, PA	610-647-2530x131

Roy Harker

Church of Saint Asaph
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

David P. Beatty, Ph.D.

(215) 518-1025

Harry Wilkinson

Ph.D., F.A.G.O.

Dennis Elwell

Overbrook Presbyterian Church - Philadelphia
Philadelphia AGO National Councillor for Conventions

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AGOVOL

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These words appear at the top of the volunteer form that is mailed along with the membership renewal form. After renewing your membership, read the enclosed AGOVOL form and see how you can share your time and talents as a member of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter. The closing paragraph of David Beatty’s Dean’s Letter speaks of this sharing. Become an active member of Philadelphia AGO. Help with mailings, assist at Chapter Events, play a Tuesday Noon Recital, be that reporter for The American Organist.

What are your talents? Share them!

Loretta S. Hartnett
AGOVOL Coordinator

TUESDAY NOON RECITALS

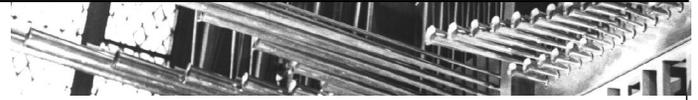
RUDOLPH A. LUCENTE, COORDINATOR
610-584-5054 Rudolph.Lucente@agophila.org

Tuesday Noons - a Great Opportunity!



Next year’s slate is ALMOST ready to announce for the entire season. Not only are these delightful networking and community events, performance opportunities, and vehicles for outreach, but in many ways they can also serve as educational opportunities, much in keeping with our final Dean’s Letter from David Beatty.

TALE PIPES



MARY ELIZABETH CAMPBELL, EDITOR
Crescendo@agophila.org

In recent years I’ve been working at becoming a runner, and I see definite parallels between endurance running and life in general, as well as sacred music pursuits in particular. The other day I had pushed to get to Valley Forge Park by 6:30 a.m. in hopes of beating bad traffic. I began my run by crossing to Betzwood and back via a foot bridge that parallels route 422. The highway was already snarled with impatient drivers, there were occasional angry horn blasts, all a bit reminiscent of the frantic pace we can sometimes find ourselves caught up in.



Early morning Valley Forge through Chapel Archway

Coming back into the main park, I chose to run the large loop counterclockwise which entails tackling the steepest hill first, running along Route 23. After coming level and continuing along 23, which also was clogged with traffic even before 7:00 a.m., beyond the Chapel it eventually turns away from the road. The trail then has a few more ups and downs in the subsequent miles, including a few prolonged hic-ups, but then culminates in a nice, long, gentle down hill. There’s something reassuring about finishing the most difficult things first – and having some room to coast. Taking time to emerge from a hectic schedule into relative calm is refreshing. Finding the chance to meditate, to find the stillness, to escape from the traffic. Mindfulness – a lovely pursuit in any walk, or run, of life – can bring us back to the reason that we do what we do. It can pave the way for finding pleasant surprises and unexpected treasure.

In the midst of a long run I sometimes catch myself thinking, “And WHY am I doing this?” Likewise in the midst of preparing for a demanding liturgical schedule, facing down a mountainous concert season, or hectic Holy Day/Holidays you may at times feel overwhelmed and struggle to envision the end of the process. On step – one note – one measure – one tenth of a mile at a time.

Mary Elizabeth Campbell

CRESCENDO

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Katherine Reier, Circulation Coordinator
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