

ClevelandNPM
The Cleveland Chapter of the National Pastoral Musicians Association
Newsletter – September 2004



Notes From the Director

Dear colleagues and friends in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as you continue the ministry to which God has called you.

Our Cleveland Chapter of NPM is growing and active again. The first activity of this season is an organ workshop next month. This workshop arose from the desire to have mentoring on a local level for those who wished to pursue organ certification from NPM. We plan to repeat this workshop in other parts of the Diocese to allow for more participation on the part of our membership. See the article contained later in this newsletter.

I would like to thank Janet Noveske for her part in helping the Cleveland Chapter become vital again. She has been a wonderful asset as an officer, but must resign due to other commitments. It is with regret that I accept her resignation as Co-Animator for Koinonia. This leaves Bill Toler as the sole Animator for Koinonia at this time.

At each of the Regional NPM Conventions this summer, a "Chat and Chew" session was held for Chapter Directors. We would like to use the same format as a venue for pastoral musicians in each district of our Diocese to come together informally over a meal setting and have a chance to share concerns and ideas. For this to happen, we'd like members to volunteer to be a host parish for the district musicians for a lunch or supper. The host parish doesn't have to provide the food, as the meal could be potluck, or share in the cost of pizza, etc. If you are interested in hosting such a gathering, please let me know via email or phone.

We would also like to host more choral reading sessions. I've talked with WLP about having multiple sessions around

the Diocese, south, east and west. This could work well, as we are not required to use a clinician from World Library to have them. We can use our local people to conduct the reading sessions. The chapter officers can arrange for the packets and registration at each session. Again, volunteers are needed to host a reading session. If you would like to offer your space, let me know.

If you haven't yet read the Aug.-Sept. issue of Pastoral Music Magazine, or heard about the Saint Cecilia Sing, we are encouraged to participate in the national Saint Cecilia Sing by celebrating with a festival or concert on the weekend of November 20 and 21. The feast of St. Cecilia is November 22. This doesn't mean you need to plan a concert at your parish that weekend, but you could help promote or attend one near you. I know of 2 concerts already in our Diocese on Nov. 21 - one on the east side and one on the west side. We'll post these on the web site and can add more as you let us know what may be happening in your area.

If you have not had a reprint license with GIA, you may not be aware of OneLicense.Net. GIA is now a part of OneLicense.Net which includes about 14 publishers currently under one reprint license (including Hope Publishing, Choristers Guild, Lorenz Publishing and more). Check it out online. <http://www.onelicense.net/>

In the spring, we would like to host a concert by liturgical musicians/composers. I became acquainted with the music of David Kaufman and Good for the Soul Music at the Regional Convention in Chicago. I was impressed with his music and am using two of his songs at our Sacrament of Anointing next month. They would be willing to come to Cleveland and do a concert or two for free will offering. We would provide their airfare, and house them while they were here. This sounds like a very do-able event for our chapter and would allow more of you to get acquainted with his music. We would need a parish willing to host the concert.

- how about a couple different parishes so we can reach a larger area of the Diocese?

<http://www.goodforthesoulmusic.com/>

As soon as we have volunteer places for these events, we can set dates and publish them on the website. So give these some thought and get back to us soon. In the meantime, may your rehearsals be joyful and productive, your liturgies be true celebrations, and may you be renewed in your energies as you minister to God's people.

Sincerely,
Ruth Novak, Chapter Director

NPM Tip O'The Day

Getting the Nerve

When I started as a Cantor, around 7 years ago, I could barely get up to bat and sing. It seemed amazing to me that people actually went up to the microphone and were able to both get the notes out and bring the assembly in. Since I wanted very much to serve in this role, I knew I had to figure out a way to manage my feelings of self-consciousness and fear. To do this, I started to focus more on the hospitality part and less, for a while, on the singing, saying to myself that this was not about me. I had a job to do and the assembly, along with the other liturgical ministers, were counting on me to do my part. Every time I started to worry whether notes would come out right, I practiced relaxing and switching my mindset to the service part of it as a reality check.

I also knew that no one was making me do this, so I could either be agonizing over it, or determine to enjoy myself. Over time these responses became habit and nerves are almost never a problem anymore - at least not in a major way. Certainly voice lessons help immensely and a Cantor must be prepared, because you are responsible musically as well as ministerially. However, helping people

feel welcome and encouraged to sing is primary and can become its own fulfillment. Now when I get up to Cantor, I look at the assembly and know we are in this together; interdependent, and I look forward to the interaction. Of course getting the nerve will always be somewhat of a leap of faith too, and that is part of the practice of being Christian!

Susanne Sande, Cantor

From the Treasurer....

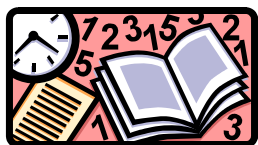


The balance of our business account is currently \$342.89. We recently received a rebate check from the NPM national office in the amount of \$112.00. The more people who are members of both National and Cleveland Chapter, the bigger the rebate each year.

Since we have started a new fiscal year, we are, once again, asking for yearly dues of \$5/individual or \$10/parish. This will cover any costs of administrative material including all mailings. Please use the form at the end of this newsletter to send in your checks and membership renewal.

Melissa Gali-Bird, Treasurer

From the Editor



It is hard to believe that a year has passed since the chapter held its election of officers and kicked off the re-vitalized Cleveland Chapter. You will see from the articles in this issue of the newsletter that the members have been active. In addition to all the work at individual parishes, the chapter

- Held a music swap
- Sponsored a Cantor/Choir workshop
- Attended Regional Conventions
- Participated in the Fest

So it has been a busy year. And now we are back to Elections again – but this time for the President of the USA. Yes, I have a candidate I am supporting, but the main issue is **get out and vote** and encourage others to vote. This is an important election year so be sure you make your vote count. And, of course, don't forget the many local issues and needs for local money. They are in some cases more urgent, if not any more important, than the national vote.

Our **Web Site** is active and often contains near term news not covered in the newsletter. Be sure to go there frequently and get updates. Also, if you have news you would like to publish there, send it to me at clevelandnpm@yahoo.com and I'll make sure it is posted. In addition if you have comments or questions about the website, send them too me at the same address. We have included links to many other common resources and sites (e.g., music publishers, AGO, dioceses) and the most recent is a "job posting" page listing positions which may be relevant to our members. Give us some feedback – positive or negative. This is your web page and we want to satisfy your needs.

Web Address:
<http://www.geocities.com/clevelandnpm>

Look ahead to the Organist Workshop and plan on attending if you can on Oct 9. As one who was raised in a (Missouri) Lutheran tradition where organ leadership and assembly singing are "second nature", I would say this workshop is a *must* for those seeking to improve their musical leadership skills. And as a liturgical guitarist, I can attest to learning applicable techniques from good organ playing.

Dan Bergen, Editor

What's Happening?

The Cathedral Concert Series

Coming to CATHEDRAL of ST JOHN the EVANGELIST, 1007 Superior Ave (at E. 9th), downtown Cleveland. :

Sunday 10 October @ 3:00 p.m.
ROSE ENSEMBLE (*St Paul MN*);
Jordan Sramek, *director*
Program: Cantiga! The Cult of the Virgin (a collection of lyric poetry, Italian spiritual songs, Latin hymns, and Iberian *Cantigas de Santa Maria*)
FREE. 216-771-6666 (x5510).

Friday 19 November @ 7:30 p.m.
Jesse Manibusan (*Grapevine TX*)
Program: Singer, songwriter, guitarist and teller of humorous tales, a charismatic performer with an extensive repertoire. Presented in collaboration with the Diocesan Office of Youth & Adult Ministry.
FREE. 216-771-6666 (x5510).

More information on these and other events at our website:
www.dioceseofcleveland.org/stjohncathedral/Concert/Concert.html



Organist Workshop

Presented by Jason Lorenzon, Director of Music Ministries at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Macedonia, Ohio. Jason has earned a Colleague certification from the American Guild of Organists and is a member of the Standing Committee for Organists of the NPM.

- Covers organ skills for beginning and intermediate level organist
- Liturgical information every organist needs
- How to accompany hymns and acclamations
- Working with your cantor on responsorial psalmody
- Registration ideas for organ literature and service music
- Practical organ literature for Preludes and Postludes
- Master class / coaching sessions
- Preparation for NPM and AGO certification programs

Saturday, October 9. 12 noon until 3pm at Gesu Catholic Church, 2470 Miramar Blvd. University Heights, OH 44135 (Gesu is adjacent to the John Carroll University campus; for directions to church call 216 932-0617) For more information about this workshop or other NPM events call 216 932-1626. This program is open to all interested organists. A free will offering will be accepted.

What Happened this Year

Spring Workshop for Cantors and Choirs



The workshop was a big success.

The weekend of April 23/24 was wonderful experience for the approximately 50 participants. Hosted by the Cleveland NPM at St Joseph the Worker parish in Strongsville, the workshops provided a deep insight into the role of Cantor and/or Choir member/director Total attendance at all the events (tallied from the registration sheets) was between 40-50 people. The Cantor workshop was the most heavily attended, while the Choir workshop had around 15 participants.

Our thanks to Joe Metzinger for organizing the event and to the Presenters - Joe Simmons and Laurence Rosania -- for their efforts and inspiration. For pictures of the event, see the website.

Some of the comments from a survey taken at the conclusion of the event are included below. [Note: several comments relate to the "Masters Class" in which individual participants Cantored before the group and were coached by Joe.]

What was the most valuable part of the workshop for you?

- Individual instruction
- Defined the Cantor's role very well – it wasn't clear before.
- Study of psalms and learning new ways to approach them.
- Liturgical insights as a Cantor.
- Watching Joe bring out the best in each Cantor.
- New music
- Coaching
- Getting together with others in this field.
- Many of the presenter's comments were things I already do and have done for years, so I felt reinforced by them. Interactive exercises were most valuable to me.
- The history and types of psalms
- The emphasis on the spirituality of the Cantor and the study/work required.
- Practical workshops involving singing.
- Listening to Cantors and hearing the positive and helpful

remarks; the face and eyes being expressive.

- Discussion of practicalities; insights, the singing.
- Exploring the range of Cantor roles and how to fulfill with facial, physical, and vocal practice.

Spring Music Swap



With attendance by about 15 members, the Music Swap held at St Leo's on March 6 was a success. Participants enjoyed the ability to browse through "new" music (we always love that) and to socialize and enjoy each other's company. We hope to do it again See pictures on the website.

Akron News

The very busy Akron group has been meeting for several years and has officially been acknowledged as a branch of the Cleveland NPM. Congratulations and *Welcome!*

In the future, this space will be devoted to news from the "south". And the official name is [Southern District of Summit County NPM](#).

News from National

If you haven't read your national magazine, do so. Lot's of tip and good info there.

Next years' National Convention will be in Milwaukee June 27 through July 1. That's an easy drive or flight from here. Plan to attend. We will have more information and group rates later. Watch for it.

For the latest from National, check out <http://www.npr.org>

Job opening

Assistant in Liturgical Music:

Assist Director of Music in large Roman Catholic multichoir music program. Basic keyboard skills required with willingness to learn organ and conducting.

- accompany choral rehearsals on piano
- accompany choral pieces on organ
- some service playing on piano
- conduct choirs for service music

Sunday services at 9:00am & 10:30
Wednesday eve. rehearsal at 8 pm

Flexible scheduling -- some weeks off with advance notice. However, Christmas and Easter services required.

For more information: call Dr. Joseph Metzinger, (216) 932-1626
Church of the Gesu
University Heights, OH

Chapter officers and contact info

Chapter Director

Ruth Novak
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Assistant Director for Recruiting

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Director of Liturgy and Music
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Coordinator for Planning

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Director of Music Ministries
Gesu Parish
University Heights OH 44118-3896
Phone: 216 932 1626

Animator for Koinonia

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Music Director
St Raphael
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Phone: 440 871 1100

Secretary

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Treasurer

Melissa Gali-Bird
Director of Music Ministries
Ascension of Our Lord Church
14040 Puritas Ave
Cleveland OH 44135-2894
Phone: 216 671 5890

Membership

Membership in the local Cleveland Chapter may be had on an Individual basis or on a Parish basis. Dues for individuals which include voting rights in local affairs are \$5.00. Parish membership is a non-voting membership for as many people as the parish wishes to include in the list for only \$10 per parish. Parish memberships are non-voting but do include "member discounts" at local events.

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I wish to become **Individual Member** of the ClevelandNPM. Enclosed are my dues for 2004-05 in the amount of \$5.00.

Parish Member of the ClevelandNPM. Enclosed are my dues for 2004-05 in the amount of \$10.00 and attached is the list of other members from my parish.

My name is: _____ NPM Nat'l Member _____
(please indicate if an individual or parish membership)

Name of Home Parish: _____

I wish to receive my news letter by email only. Keep the "snail mail" coming.

My email address is: _____

Please mail to: Melissa Gali-Bird, Ascension of Our Lord Church, 14040 Puritas Avenue, Cleveland, OH 4413