

From the Dean

"Jove speed your pistons, couplers and stops as in the new year blithely hops." I do not know who penned these words, with apologies to Thomas Hardy. However, I suspect it was Charlie Peaker of the RCCO, up in Canada. Years ago, this verse was one of several suggestions that we organists could send to each other.

The Season of Epiphany has begun, and with it hopefully new insights for ways we can plan our respective schedules. Jan. 29 our chapter event will be a hymn festival led by organist David Cherwien at Pine Shores Presbyterian, 6135 Beechwood Avenue in Sarasota. Both the event and a Jan. 28 rehearsal begin at 7 p.m. Please make your reservations with Sharon Watson if you have not done so already. Because many of us will be coming from some distance and avoid driving at night, car pooling is always a good suggestion.

This is an excellent opportunity for those of us with choirs to invite members to sing with a large, combined choir. Dress is white shirts and black pants or skirt. Many thanks to Sub-Dean Dwane Grace for ordering the music, which will be paid for by our chapter. There is no charge for participants, although donations of cans of soup are asked for a "Souper Bowl of Sharing."

Our executive committee plans to meet more frequently, and our next meeting is Jan. 19. Among other things, we need a nominating committee so they can find candidates for board positions and officers. Chapter elections are slated for April. Additional details will be announced.

Best wishes for success throughout this new year.

Carl Parks, Dean