



Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church

Service through Worship, Worship through Service

June, 2009

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT— June 27, 2009

A quarterly meeting of the Walter Mace Chapter of the VGEC will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1015 Holman, Houston, Texas from 10:30 a m to 12:30. Our speaker will be The Rev. James Derkits, assistant rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Houston. In addition to the usual quarterly reports on the progress of our chapter, votes for officers will be taken.

Map to Trinity/Houston may be obtained from Trinity's website at www.trinitychurchhouston.net under Contact Us and then Map.

Trinity is located between Main and Fannin on Holman in the Midtown area of Houston.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS—June 27, 2009

According to the By-Laws of our Chapter, elections are held in the spring of each year. Beginning with the last election, offices for election are staggered to allow a continuity in the leadership of our Chapter.

Positions up for election for June, 2009 through June, 2011 include President, Training Officer, and Communications Officer. The names of the candidates for each office, along with a brief biography for each person, are included on each ballot. Ballots have been sent to all listed members of the Mace Chapter. If you believe you qualify and need a ballot, write to Bid Drake at bdrake2939@consolidated.net to request one.

Those who have been nominated for **President** are: Richard Evans - St. Paul's - Waco, Peggy Metcalf - Holy Trinity - Dickinson and Walter Stuart - St. John's - Houston.

The nominee for **Training Officer** is: Jane Leizear - Trinity - Marble Falls.

Those who have been nominated **Communication Officer** are: Richard Evans - St. Paul's - Waco and Mark Harmon - St. Mark's - Houston.

Background information on our candidates:

FOR PRESIDENT:

Richard Evans, St. Paul's, Waco

Nominated by Peggy Metcalf, President and Ron Robertson, Training Officer. Ron wrote:

Richard (Dick) Evans, PhD, has been a verger for several months now, but his background led him to be another of my best trainees. I currently use his notebook as part of my first starting session because it is that good. Dick was the department head of the music department for many, many years at Washing-

ton University, before retiring and moving to Texas. His background gave him the necessary training to become an exceptional Verger. He plans to attend this year's VGEC meeting in San Diego. I feel that we need to get the office of president out of Houston to help open up this ministry to other areas of our Diocese.

Peggy Metcalf, Holy Trinity, Dickinson

Nominated by Bidwell Drake, Communications Officer, who wrote:

Peggy has ten year's experience as a Verger, is our current president and the first to be nominated for a second term. She has BA in Engineering Mathematics and JD degrees. Peggy is active in the Diocese of Texas, and currently serves on the Department of World Mission and the Order of St. Luke's boards. Her past service areas include Community of Hope, two terms on the diocesan ECW board, parish administrator at Trinity/Houston, four years as administrative assistant to Bishop Alard when he was Vicar at Santa Cruz, plus nine years at Redeemer/Houston in charge of the Altar Guild, acolytes, and the flower and wedding guilds. Peggy knows more people in the diocese than most of us can even name. She has organized our terrific Training Seminars and pulls in excellent speakers for them as well as our quarterly meetings.

Walter Stuart, St. John the Divine, Houston

Nominated by Joe Sturdevant, Vice President, who wrote:

Walter Stuart has been an active Verger in multiple Dioceses for more than 17 years. He served as Head Verger for several Parishes in Southeastern Florida: training, scheduling, and coordinating the activities of Acolytes, Lectors, LEM's, Lay

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Report on Our 7th Annual Seminar in April

Our 7th annual training seminar was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in April. About 25 people were present for the events. Speakers included Austin Bay, who spoke on the process for selecting the next companion diocese, The Rev. Al Rodriguez, rector of St. John's, who spoke on prayer, and Paul Brinsden, who shared about his experiences as a verger, and about training

acolytes.

The entire seminar was videoed, and it is in the process of being edited then put on a DVD. When it is available, it will be put on the website, and a copy will be made available to circulate amongst the various churches.

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Eucharistic Visitors, Ushers, and Greeters, fostering close working relationships with both the Music Directors and the Altar Guilds of those Parishes. He has planned, coordinated and executed major worship services for Feast Days, Ordinations, and Acolyte Festivals. In his Diocesan activities, he chaired Planning sessions with Music Directors and Clergy, served as Vice President of the Vergers Guild of Southeast Florida, planned, coordinated, and executed the Diocesan Convention and the Convention Eucharist. Walter has served as a Verger in Diocesan activities such as planning and Verging a full week of large and complex worship services, including two of our Bishops, for the Association of Anglican Musicians, and he brought great credit to himself, to our Chapter and to the Diocese of Texas. He represents us ably at the national level by serving as Treasurer of the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church. He assisted in the final planning of the consecration service of Bishop Doyle. Prior to his retirement, Walter held executive positions in international Banking, both in the US and abroad, and brings a wealth of organizational skills and knowledge to our Chapter as we grow to become a truly Diocesan-wide organization.

FOR TRAINING OFFICER:

Jane Leizear, Trinity, Marble Falls

Nominated by Pat Hudson, who wrote:

Jane is a past Vestry member and Senior Warden; she started our Adult Education classes, is the mentor for our EFM classes, serves on our Search Committee, Budget Committee, Worship Commission, Ministry and Outreach Commission, Coordinator of Community of Hope Committee, Legal and Finance Commission, Board of Trustees for the Trinity endowment fund, and Stewardship Commission. She has also served the diocese as a member of the Dispatch of Business Committee. In addition to all of the ministries Jane is involved in at our church, she has an undergraduate degree in English and History from the University of Texas and a Doctorate Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A & M. She served as director of History and Philosophy at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. She also served a term on the Executive Board of the Diocese.

Ron Robertson, who trained Jane, wrote:

She understands the travel involved in being the TO and she was with me the week before the seminar over in Austin when we started six more new trainees. Jane knows what to do

and how to do it. I know she is over in Houston a lot now doing other Diocesan things with or for our new Canon, who was her Rector when she was installed, with Bishop Doyle in attendance. So she is known in the big office already. She will be a good one.

FOR COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER:

Dick Evans very kindly volunteered to stand for the Communications Officer position if he is not elected president

Mark Marmon, St. Mark's, Houston

Nominated by Patricia Shepherd, Secretary/Treasurer, who wrote:

Mark is a past vestry member and the lead verger at St. Mark's. His wife Shelly is our Senior Warden. They have two children, Andrew and Katherine. Mark has been involved with the children's ministry and plays guitar. He has taken over the vergers and keeps accurate schedules for us all. Mark is Vice President of Fisheries/Guadalupe River Trout Unlimited Texas, a past board member of Texas Flyfishers Club, and is a certified fly casting instructor.

Tim Wade, Emmanuel, Houston

Nominated by Ron Robertson, Training Officer, who wrote:

Tim Wade was one of my best trainees, whose training details are now in the manual that is still being used. He has grasp of a wide variety of subjects and is a very quick study. Tim is a teacher and also very active with his son's soccer sessions as a coach. He is very computer literate and will be an excellent Communications Officer as our Chapter continues to grow. Tim is very organized and his attention to detail is exceptional.

Upcoming National VGEC Conferences

Mark your calendars and plan to attend :

The 2009 National VEGC Conference— October 22 thru 25 in San Diego, California. Information on this conference will be available in a few months on the National VEGC website www.vergers.org.

The 2010 National VEGC Conference— October 7 thru 10 in Washington, D.C.

And in 2013, the 25th Anniversary of the National VGEC, the conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

Annual Dues

Annual dues are \$20.00. Please make your checks payable to: Walter Mace Memorial Chapter VGEC and send to: Patricia Shepherd, 5326 Carmen, Houston, TX 77033

You do not have to pay dues to be an affiliate member of our Chapter, however you must pay dues to vote in elections or serve as an officer of the Chapter. Dues assist the Chapter with several expenses, such as the booth fee at Diocesan Council, and handouts and speakers fees for our seminars and meetings, as well as postage for the newsletter.

Newsletter

The Chapter newsletter is posted on our website at www.texasvergers.org and e-mailed to all members who have given us their e-mail. If you want a copy mailed to you, please contact our Communications Officer, Bid Drake at bdrake2939@consolidated.net or by phone 926-756-3566. Please provide your name and complete address.

Contact Information

We are constantly trying to keep your contact information up to date so that we are able to keep you informed of all activities within our Chapter. Please notify the Communications Officer, Bid Drake at bdrake2939@consolidated.net, whenever there is a change in your address, phone number or e-mail.

Thanks!

Officers

President

Margaret Metcalf – St. Mark's – Houston
713-741-4312 *or* mlfm1943@yahoo.com

Vice-President

Joseph Sturdevant - Good Shepherd - Tomball
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Secretary/Treasurer

Patricia Shepherd – St. Mark's – Houston
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Training Officer

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If you received this newsletter on paper, PLEASE send your E-address to Bid. Many thanks!