

# THE NORTH AMERICAN ACADEMY OF LITURGY



Spring 2004 Newsletter

April 2004

## From the President

This is such a refreshing time to be writing my first letter to you with daffodils and not snow strewn across the lawns in Cleveland. I almost forgot what green looked like! And now, at every turn, in juxtaposition to daily news of violence and death, I see signs of hope and life.

Happily, I am writing to announce our yearly invitation for Berakah Award nominees. Our official documentation about this award is terse: The Berakah Award is given since the beginning of the Academy every year to a member of the Academy to honor his or her work. It's something of a testament to the deep bench of NAAL that after so many years we are still giving the Berakah Award to men and women on the "A" team of liturgists. I welcome receiving your nominations at [ddonnelly@jcu.edu](mailto:ddonnelly@jcu.edu) and will pass them along to the Academy Committee at our next meeting. Names of prior awardees may be found on our website under "Awards."

On the subject of our website, I am pleased to announce that Michael Driscoll has accepted (with typical graciousness and not the least bit of urging on my part) the responsibility of taking a look at our NAAL

web page. Ruth Meyers joins him as liaison with the Academy Committee and both she and Michael are looking for volunteers or nominees from among our members who have some expertise in web design to assist their review. Jerry Chinchar has provided us an enormous service with his work and has inspired us to consider ways to enhance, if possible, his achievement. Volunteers? Nominees? Please send an email to Michael at [Driscoll.7@nd.edu](mailto:Driscoll.7@nd.edu) or to Ruth at [r-meyers@seabury.edu](mailto:r-meyers@seabury.edu).

And one last bit of good news: Cathleen Kaveny, an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame, has agreed to be our Plenary Speaker at Louisville in January, 2005. Cathleen holds a PhD in Ethics from the Yale Graduate School and a JD from the Yale Law School. She writes with intelligence and uncommon insight about matters religious and the popular culture – all of these things add up to what promises to be a stimulating time together.

About that time together – I trust you've already circled the days – January 6-9, 2005, and I look forward to seeing you then.

Doris Donnelly



### **From the Treasurer**

Greetings from the West Coast. As I start my work as your treasurer, I would like to thank Alan Detscher for leaving the Academy finances in such excellent shape. His work in the past six years has made it much easier for me to do the work in the coming years.

If you have membership fees that are in arrears or need to contact me for any other reason, the address you should use is:

Glenn Byer, NAAL Treasurer  
92663 Wireless Road  
Astoria, OR 97103  
Email: [gcjb@aol.com](mailto:gcjb@aol.com)

Currently, in addition to the budget, I am looking for an economical way to take credit cards, and I am looking at the suggestions you made at the business meeting for the processing of memberships from outside of the United States. I will report on these issues as they develop.

I look forward to working with you all to continue to build the financial security of the organization, all the while keeping the costs of administration down and making the annual meeting as economical as the venue permits.

Glenn Byer, Treasurer



### **From the Delegate for Seminars**

As my first contribution to the NAAL newsletter as the new delegate for seminars, I want to offer a litany of thanks for the hard work of seminar conveners in preparation for and during January's academy meeting. This year, the Academy benefited from the work of twenty-one seminars. As we look toward next year's

Academy, conveners are encouraged to begin now communicating with me about seminar needs (equipment and space), topics to be discussed, and/or titles of papers to be presented. Information about seminar size and space needs is particularly important as the Academy Committee finalizes plans with the hotel for next January. I am honored to have been elected to this Academy leadership responsibility and look forward to this unfolding year of Academy work and celebration. Please feel free to get in touch with me to share any of your questions, concerns or ideas about seminars:

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### **From the Delegate for Membership**

Last Spring the Academy Committee invited all in NAAL to keep an eye out among your friends and acquaintances for accomplished, well-established, and respected professionals in liturgy or related disciplines who meet the criteria for membership but who have never joined the Academy. Perhaps they were never invited or do not think of themselves as "belonging." Once again we invite all our members who know such colleagues to recommend their names to Richard Rutherford, Delegate for Membership ([ruther@up.edu](mailto:ruther@up.edu)), or to any of the Committee members, so that we, together with you, might invite them for membership in the Academy. For a review of criteria and other Membership Information see the NAAL website at <http://naal-liturgy.org/documents/brochure.htm>.

The Academy Committee appreciates the positive response to the addition of certificates of membership to our welcoming of new members. As promised at the annual meeting the Delegate for Membership would be happy to send a similar certificate to NAAL members elected before January 2005 who would like to have one. Perhaps there is an empty spot on your office wall just waiting to feature NAAL? All interested in having such a certificate this year should contact Richard Rutherford ([ruther@up.edu](mailto:ruther@up.edu)). Please provide the year you became a member of the Academy and necessary mailing information.

**From the Editor of NAAL Proceedings**

Joyce Ann Zimmerman, CPPS, editor of *Proceedings*, tells us that we should be receiving copies in June. If your postal address has changed within the last six month, please send your corrected address to the Secretary (Gerald Chinchar SM [gtc@udayton.edu](mailto:gtc@udayton.edu) ) as soon as you can.



**Words of appreciation and thanks to NAAL from Central Synagogue NYC**



CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE 123 East 55th Street • New York, NY 10022-3566

20 January 2004  
26 Tevet 5764

Dear Ruth,

Thank you so much for your gift of \$900 to Central Synagogue's Caring Committee. Every Thursday and Friday morning approximately 100-150 homeless citizens of

this City are served a hot breakfast and are given a small take away bag with a nutritious snack. Although this by no means is the solution to a very serious issue, it provides understanding and momentary solace as well as solid nutrition.

It is because of many friends like you that we are able to run this program so successfully and to fill such a vital community need.

Please again accept our sincerest thanks and we look forward to having you as our continuing partner in this extraordinary endeavor.

Sincerely,  
Alfred Youngwood  
President Board of Trustees  
P.S. In accordance with IRS regulations, neither goods nor services were exchanged for this contribution.



CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE 123 East 55th Street • New York, NY 10022-3566

Dear Professor Meyers,

We are very grateful for the Academy's wonderful contribution to our feeding program. We feed several hundred people providing four meals a week.

It was an honor for us to have the North American Academy of Liturgy meet in our sanctuary. Members of your academy are very close to our congregation. As I've mentioned three of them were instrumental in supporting the congregation in thinking about the renovation. We are very proud of the results.

Please know that the Academy has an open invitation to return. We wish you all well and thank you again for your wonderful contribution to our feeding program.

Peter J. Rubinstein, Rabbi



CENTRAL SYNAGOGE 123 East 55th Street • New York, NY 10022-3566 •

Dear Ms. Meyers:

I want to thank you for your very generous gift to Central Synagogue, which has been earmarked to the Caring Committee: Breakfast Program. On behalf of our program, I want to tell you a little about what we do and why your gift means so much.

Each Thursday and Friday morning, our Breakfast Program volunteers arrive at 5:30 AM and prepare a bag lunch and a hot breakfast, which we serve to between 100-110 homeless guests. We provide sit-down service, pour as much hot coffee as is requested and give our guests an opportunity and a quiet environment to eat, share information with others and rest before going out into the street for another day of survival.

Anyone who shows up at our door is welcome. We ask no questions. Most are men but we have seen more women recently. Most disturbing is the increase in younger adults. For those of us who volunteer, it is clear that many of our guests are homeless and living on the street while a few may live on monthly welfare, disability or social security check and use our breakfast and take-away bag lunch to keep an SRO roof over their heads. Since 9-11 we have seen an increase of approximately 20% in the number of hungry guests who appear. Since we never know from month

to month or from year to year what to anticipate in the way of donations, we are always living on the budgetary edge. Your generous support will provide us with a more firm and stable scaffolding on which we can build to enable us to continue our program. Donations such as yours will provide some sense of security in an otherwise uncertain economy.

On behalf of our guests, I thank you again for your donation.

Most sincerely,  
Ellen Leef-Sherrow, Chair  
Caring Committee: Breakfast Program



#### **Nominations Alert:**

It is not too early to think about nominations for the various offices to be elected in January at Louisville.

The nomination committee is seeking names for the offices of vice-president, delegate for membership, and secretary. Please email your suggestions to past-president Michael S. Driscoll at [driscoll.7@nd.edu](mailto:driscoll.7@nd.edu).



The Academy Committee invites the membership to propose names of those whom they might consider worthy of the either the Berakah or Diekmann awards as noted above.

Please send your suggestions to President Doris Donnelly ([ddonnelly@jcu.edu](mailto:ddonnelly@jcu.edu)) or any member of the Academy Committee.



# Minutes of the Business Meeting

5 January 2004  
New York, New York

## A. Opening

1. Members of the Academy with Ruth Meyers, president, presiding.
2. Agenda for the meeting was amended and approved as printed. The Academy Committee also re-affirms its gratitude to Mary Alice Piil for her work as Secretary in the past years.
3. The Academy approved the Minutes of the 2003 Annual Business Meeting (Indianapolis).

## B. Proxies

1. Registration of Proxies:  
Catherine Vincie for Frank Quinn;  
Richard Leggett for Elsie McKee; Gil Ostiek for Ed Foley; G. Chinchar for Manny Cutrone.

## C. Reports

1. Report of the Delegate for Membership:  
Richard Rutherford presented sixteen Candidates for membership. Teresa Berger, Andrea Bieler; Lorraine Brugh; David W. Fagerberg; Mary Francis Fleischaker OP; Jerry Galipeau; Hilary Hayden OSB; Alan J. Hommerding; J. Philip Horrigan; Peter Kim; Anne Koester; Kimberly Bracken Long; Marit Rong; Deborah Sokolove; Bryan Spinks; Stephen B. Wilson. All accepted as members.
2. Report of the Past Past President Gabe Huck regarding Nominations, and Elections:

Gabe thanked all who generously consented to run for Offices. For Vice President: Thomas Schattauer, Larry Stookey, and Karen Westerfield Tucker. For Treasurer: Glenn CJ Byer, Victor Gebauer, Troy Messenger. For Delegate for Seminars: Jill Crainshaw, Clifton Guthrie, L. Edward Phillips. He also thanked the nominating committee: Todd Johnson and Randall Lee.

### *Elected were:*

Vice president: Thomas Shattauer.  
Delegate for Seminars: Jill Crainshaw. Treasurer: Glenn CJ Byer.

## 3. Secretary's Report:

The statistics of attendance for this year as of December 31, 2003:

Total membership: 438. 293 registrants including the Guest speaker and the Guest composer. This figure also includes: 15 Candidates for Membership. 55 Visitors (40 first time visitors were approved, not all followed through; 29 were second or third time visitors); This means that 54% of our membership is in attendance today.

This compares to last's year's (2002) statistics: The roster 422 are members and 96 visitors. 277 were present at the meeting. Of these, 195 were members, 19 candidates for membership and 63 visitors. 50% attendance.

Secretary Gerald Chinchar spoke about the work he has done on the NAAL database during the year to keep it updated. He also explained how he followed through with invalid emails by a personal letter via US Mail, asking for an email update. Email is an increasingly good way to communicate and it

would help if every member would submit an email address. It is also important for us to have street address and phone updates. All members are asked to send updates to the NAAL organization when making address changes of any kind (email, postal, phone).

Each year the roster will be evaluated to determine if a member should be removed for lack of payment of dues. All are reminded that a member who fails to pay dues for three years is removed from the roster and must either pay all the back dues immediately or must reapply in the future.

The registration process has worked well with the exception of the ongoing difficulty of those who simply appear at the meeting or who send in their registrations well after the due date. In order to work well with the Hyatt in our planning process, it is most important that a good sense of the numbers for a meeting be in place by December 15th.

The process of sending the Newsletter via PDF in email seems to have gone well. It is far less expensive to send it via email and it is less complicated and time consuming.

Chinchar stated that combining the role of Secretary and web-master proved to be a good one. This combination has facilitated keeping the website as up-to-date as possible. The newsletters are always posted the day they are published. The Annual Meeting agenda and announcements are posted on the web well before the paper copies go out. News items for the NAAL web, e.g., notices of the death of members

or relevant job opportunities should be emailed to the Secretary.

Chinchar pointed out a new feature on the website: each seminar page lists the members of each seminar group as well as the convener. This is linked to the database so that whenever you send in corrected information, it appears on the web within a day or two as well.

4. The Treasurer's report:

The treasurer, Alan Detscher presented his report explaining how the treasury has grown from \$19,000 six years ago to \$170,000 now (excluding expenses to be paid for the NYC meeting). He addressed the problem of payment in foreign currencies. There were some suggestions from the floor with regard to solving this issue, for example wire transfers, *Paypal* and credit card payments. The attached fiscal report was presented.

5. The Report of the Delegate for Seminars:

Catherine Vincie reported that this year we have eighteen continuing seminars and two new ones: Iconographic Art and Liturgy and Post-Modernism. The latter had only an organizational meeting intending to meet for the full Annual Meeting in 2005.

Although the Convention's evaluations have not yet been processed, the following issues have already been raised during the meeting.

There is a question regarding the posting of articles on the WEB prior to the meeting. Some participants wanted their articles posted in order to receive Institutional support for

the meeting, while others were concerned with losing their right to publish in other journals should they desire to do that. The Academy Committee will discuss these issues further at their upcoming meetings.

A second concern voiced during the meeting was that there seemed to be less time for Seminars at this meeting than in previous ones, and because the Seminars are of such importance members voiced their preference for more time if possible. This too will be addressed to the Academy Committee.

Catherine then thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as Delegate for Seminars.

6. Report of the Editor of *Proceedings*:

*Proceedings* Editor, Joyce Ann Zimmerman CPPS, thanked the editorial board for their work: Paul Meyendorff, Joanne Pierce, and Karen Westerfield Tucker. She thanked the Secretary for the updated mailing labels; only one came back this year compared to over twenty the previous year. She reminded the Members that the *Proceedings* is a refereed journal. The procedures for evaluating articles to be included are: articles are duplicated and sent to three board members without name of author; an evaluation with ranking and comments is submitted by each; the editor tabulates and makes a final decision. The *Proceedings* are copyrighted and registered with ATLA for cross references. The financial costs have been reduced as Joyce does the editorial and layout work herself.

Conveners are reminded to submit articles and seminar summaries in a timely manner, usually by February 15 of the current year. It is appreciated if the seminar submission follow the format provided if at all possible.

7. Report of the President:

Ruth Meyers reported that it has been an honor to serve as the Academy's President, admitting that it has also been hard work. She reviewed how Presidents in recent years have commented at the business meeting on the heavy responsibilities that come with the office of President. In addition to overseeing the business of the Academy and chairing the Annual Meeting as well as meetings of the Academy Committee, the President plans the annual meeting, including such tasks as setting the schedule, coordinating worship, making arrangements with a plenary speaker and the *Berakah* honoree, and making decisions about the hotel. The list goes on.

*Hotel Liaison*

After discussion at the business meeting last year, the Academy Committee decided to appoint a Hotel Liaison to handle arrangements with the hotel. The Academy has a long-term contract with the Hyatt chain of hotels, but with a different president each year, we have not been able to have much continuity. This new position provides greater continuity and relieves the President of a significant burden. The Academy Committee will review our agreement with the Hotel Liaison each year following the annual meeting. It is our hope that one person will continue as

Hotel Liaison through the duration of our current contract with the Hyatt, that is, 2007, and perhaps train a successor who will help negotiate a contract for meetings beyond 2007. That decision, however, will be made by a future President and Academy Committee.

Ruth stated that she was very grateful that Alan Barthel consented to take on the role of Hotel Liaison. Alan negotiated our current contract with Hyatt, so he has a good working knowledge of its provisions and the procedures of the Hyatt corporation. Ruth stated, "He has been a tremendous support for me, and I am grateful for all that he has done for us during this meeting and in the months leading up to it."

The Academy Committee will continue to find other ways to support the work of the President in planning and preparing for the annual meeting. A few years ago we asked Nancy Crouch from OSL Publications to take on the task of coordinating exhibits. Nancy has fulfilled this responsibility efficiently and graciously, and it was of great help to her this year to know that this aspect of the meeting was not something she needed to be concerned about. This fall, when Nancy was unable to continue her work due to a family crisis, Glenn Byer from Oregon Catholic Press picked up midstream with scarcely a hitch. Thanks were expressed to both Nancy and Glenn for their service to the Academy.

### *Visitors*

Ruth reported that it is one of the pleasurable tasks of the President to

host a reception for visitors and candidates for membership. This year she received email messages from several visitors expressing their appreciation and their eagerness to join our work in the Academy. The large number of visitors each year reflects the vitality of the Academy. Many of these visitors eventually go on to become members.

This year, several of those who volunteered to serve on the local committee were not yet members. Nonetheless, they plunged into this work with great enthusiasm, offering their service to the Academy. This, too, suggests the vitality of the Academy.

While we continue to attract significant numbers of visitors, it has been apparent to the Academy Committee that members of the Academy do not have a common understanding of the qualifications necessary for an individual to attend an annual meeting as a visitor.

Ruth sketched the history: For many years the Academy had two categories of membership, associate and full member, and there was no formal process that required a person to come as a visitor before applying for membership. About ten years ago the Academy eliminated these two categories of membership and adopted the current system which requires potential members to attend at least one and usually two meetings before applying for membership. For much of the past decade, we have been refining membership materials, including both the statement of qualifications for membership in the Academy and

the process of application for visitor status.

For several years, individual members have brought to the Academy Committee a range of opinions about the participation of graduate students. Some members are of the firm opinion that graduate students should begin attending annual meetings in their first year of graduate study, as part of their formation as scholars. Other members have expressed concern that visitors who attend at this early stage of their study are not sufficiently prepared to engage in the scholarly discourse of our seminars. The primary purpose of the seminars is the enrichment and furtherance of the academic research of the members through papers and discussion. If the particular work of a student fits into the topics agreed upon by the members of the seminar that is all well and good. If student interests become the primary focus of a seminar, then the intention and work of the seminar groups is frustrated.

Our membership information states that “graduate students are eligible to apply to attend the Annual Meeting when they have moved to the end of their doctoral or equivalent terminal degree programs,” which suggests that the first year of graduate study is too soon.

Ruth invited comments on this matter. Lively discussion ensued. Suggestions included the notion that the membership committee should be given discretion to make exceptions.

## 8. Archivist

The Archivist, Edward Foley, was absent this year. There was no report.

## Adjournment:

1. Doris Donnelly, the President for 2004, extended congratulations to Ruth Meyers for her job as President 2003.
2. The new President announced that the next annual NAAL Meeting would be in Louisville, KY from January 6-9, 2005
3. The Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gerald T. Chinchar, SM  
Academy Secretary



Please do continue to consult the NAAL Website for updates and news-between-newsletters. There are death notices and job postings added at various times. There is also a new search engine to make finding things easier on you.

<http://naal-liturgy.org>

