



# Sacristy Sense

PROVINCE IV ALTAR GUILD NEWSLETTER

**SPRING 2019**

**A twice-yearly publication of the Province IV Altar Guild**

## P-IV ALTAR GUILD ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

**SUNDAY JUNE 2 - WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, 2019**

**Kanuga Conference Center  
Hendersonville, North Carolina**

### **“A TIME FOR ALL”**

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” [NRSV]

This year’s conference offers us a time to “get back to basics” and dive into the seasons of the church. Whether you are a long-time altar guild member or a “newbie” this is your opportunity to learn new information, renew old friendships and make new ones, and refresh your soul in the mountains.

Our keynote speaker and chaplain is **The Rev. Carl Saxton**, Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter in Gadsden, Alabama. Born in Bristol, Pennsylvania, Carl grew up in Lakeland, Florida. He received his BA from the University of South Florida, Tampa, with a major in History and Minor in Religious Studies. Carl received his M.Div. from the University of the South, School of Theology, Sewanee, TN. He met his wife Laura during his years working in specialty retail (bookstores), and they have been married for 15 years.



Information about the conference is continued on Page 3. Registration information will be found on Page 4.

## IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

Membership in the Province IV Altar Guild runs from January through December. Technically, dues should be paid in January, but some people wait until they register for the Conference to renew their membership.

- If you are attending the Conference, see online registration procedures on Page 4.
- If you are not attending the Conference, or prefer to pay your dues separately, complete the Membership Application on Page 5 and mail it with your check to:

**Phyllis Bruce**  
Treasurer, P-IV Altar Guild  
402 Circle Drive  
Fairhope, AL 36532-2603



## BETTY KNOWLTON ENDOWMENT FUND

Contributions to the Province IV Altar Guild Endowment Fund, named for founding member and first Treasurer Betty Knowlton, can be made at any time and in any amount. Please consider a tax-deductible gift to the Endowment Fund to commemorate a special occasion, to honor someone important in your life, or as a memorial in memory of someone special. Contributions will be acknowledged in writing. Make checks payable to "Province IV Altar Guild" and put "Endowment Fund" in the memo line, and mail to **Phyllis Bruce** (see above for address).

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## P-IV ALTAR GUILD MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE

Thanks to **Dianne Walters**, you can now order any style shirt or any other monogram-able item from Lands' End and have the Province IV logo embroidered on it. Go to <http://ocs.landsend.com> to make a selection, and then order by phone [800-587-1541]. Tell the representative you want:

Logo #1116018.  
Company Name: Province IV Altar Guild  
Store Login ID: altarguild  
Store URL: [ces.landsend.com/Province\\_IV\\_Altar\\_Guild](http://ces.landsend.com/Province_IV_Altar_Guild).

## “A TIME FOR ALL” CONTINUED . . .

Music for both the opening and closing Eucharists will be provided by pianist **Alex Watson**. A concert pianist and recording artist from Asheville, Alex has more than 25 years of performance experience in many formats: jazz, classical, sacred, and chamber music. Originally from the Eastern North Carolina city of Wilson, Alex has a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was top graduating member of the Armed Forces School of Music in Little Creek, Virginia, and three years attendance at Corso di Musica in Tuscania, Italy; and Morges, Switzerland.



Conference attendees will also take a “field trip” to **The Cathedral of All Souls** in Biltmore Village, Asheville, North Carolina. We will enjoy a docent-led tour of the cathedral, including a special tour of the sacristy led by an altar guild member. All Souls Episcopal Church was consecrated on November 8, 1896. Its name and geography have formed and shaped its life for over 120 years. Built by George Vanderbilt as the parish church for the village adjacent to the Biltmore House, it was seen by Vanderbilt as the connecting piece for the daily life of all persons, all souls, in the region. The church is situated in the hub of a fan shaped group of streets that is Biltmore Village. On January 1, 1995, All Souls became the first Cathedral for The Diocese of Western North Carolina. As a Cathedral, All Souls serves as a gathering place for the diocese, a house of prayer for all persons and a symbol for God’s desire to gather all persons around one table.



**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** – To register for the Conference, reserve accommodations at Kanuga, and pay your dues (if not already paid directly to Treasurer), go to <https://registration.kanuga.org/5293>

- To pay dues and register for the Annual Conference -- On P. 2 of the online process, select desired type of room (Double or Single). On P. 3 of the online process, select type of membership (individual or household).
  - To just register for the Annual Conference (dues already paid) -- On P. 2 of the online process, select desired type of room (Double or Single). On P. 3 DO NOT select type of membership.
  - Double room & meals for 3 days is \$397.22. Single room & meals for 3 days is \$518.92. If cost is an issue, perhaps your parish or Diocese can help!
  - If you don't have internet access or need help, try to get a friend to help you. If this is not feasible, Kanuga contact is Allie Pfeffer at 828-233-2826 or by [apfeffer@kanuga.org](mailto:apfeffer@kanuga.org). Registrations closes on Friday May 19, 2019. If you miss the deadline, contact Allie Pfeffer to see if Kanuga can accommodate a late registration.
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**THINGS TO BRING:**

- Copy of your Altar Guild Sacristy book for (or selected pages)
  - Items and/or ideas to share in "Show & Tell"
  - Light, comfortable clothes [bring a mix of things for warm weather during the day and potentially cooler weather at night – remember it's the mountains]
  - A light jacket, sweatshirt, or sweater
  - Toiletries [soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc...] – Kanuga does NOT provide these in the rooms
  - Flashlight
  - Rain gear [umbrella, raincoat]
  - Alarm clock, hair dryer, irons – Kanuga does NOT provide these in the rooms
  - **Come prepared to volunteer !!!**
    - **Lectors will be needed for all services**
    - **LEMs / Acolytes / Cross Bearer will be needed for Eucharists.**
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***BURNING OF LINENS – A CONFERENCE TRADITION***

Once a religious object is blessed and dedicated for divine worship or veneration, it must be treated with reverence and not be used in either an improper or profane way. However, blessed religious objects break or wear from use. The basic rule for the disposition of these items is to burn or to bury them. Here are a few examples:

- A chalice which becomes "unserviceable" is not to be sold but must be used for some other sacred purpose or melted.
- Vestments, altar cloths, and linens must be destroyed.
- Polluted or excess holy water must be poured into the ground.
- Palms are to be burned, and the ashes then used for distribution on Ash Wednesday or returned to the ground.
- A broken rosary or religious statue normally would be buried.

In all, the underlying idea is that what has been dedicated to God should be returned to God. One should never just "throw out" what has been dedicated to God. Linens that can no longer be repaired should be deconsecrated and burned. Bring worn out linens to the Province IV Altar Guild Annual Conference at Kanuga and they will be lovingly deconsecrated, burned, and the ashes scattered on the grounds.





# PROVINCE IV ALTAR GUILD

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP or MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

**INDIVIDUAL OR HOUSEHOLD** - Membership open to anyone interested in the ministry of serving the altar.

**ANNUAL DUES Individual \$ 20 Household\* \$ 30** (Includes spouse/partner or family member)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISH OR MISSION** - Membership for any Episcopal parish or mission, or any associated Episcopal group at the parish level (AG, ECW, etc). A recipient for Province IV Altar Guild mailing may be designated. **ANNUAL DUES \$20**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attn: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Newsletter Recipient if other than above: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIOCESE** - Membership for the Office of Bishop, Diocesan Altar Guild, Diocesan Episcopal Church Women or any other diocesan Episcopal group. A recipient for Province IV Altar Guild mailing may be designated. **ANNUAL DUES \$30**

Name of Bishop or Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Newsletter Recipient if other than above: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **PROVINCE IV ALTAR GUILD**  
 Mail application and check to: **Phyllis Bruce**  
**402 Circle Drive**  
**Fairhope, AL 36532-2603**  
**MEET THE NEW BOARD**



**Ann McCormick, *President***

**Ann McCormick**, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, was the second of six children. She was raised in the Methodist church, becoming an Episcopalian as an adult. Her first husband, a career Air Force officer, was killed in Viet Nam in 1969, leaving Ann with two children to raise. She returned to Memphis where she taught school. Ann remarried in 1976, this time to a Naval officer. She has been active in the altar guild at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church in Memphis, has held various positions with the Province IV Altar Guild, and has served as its Parliamentarian for many years. She is an accomplished seamstress, artist, needle-worker, and a Master Gardener. Ann and her husband John, both now retired, still reside in Memphis. They are fortunate that both of her children live in Memphis, and John's daughter lives in Nashville. They have one grandson.



**Martha Noble Langston, *Vice-President***

**Martha Noble Langston** is the Vice President of Province IV Altar Guild. She is a native of Gadsden, Alabama, and was confirmed at The Episcopal Church of The Holy Comforter. She currently resides in Birmingham, Alabama, and is a member of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church. Martha has been the Directress of Saint Stephen's Altar Guild and of the Alabama Diocesan Altar Guild. In addition, she serves as Co Chairman of the Liturgy and Music Committee for the Diocese of Alabama. Her lifelong career has been as a Registered Dietitian. For leisure, Martha and her husband, Larry, enjoy traveling in their RV and following University of Alabama sports events.



**Valerie Riley, Secretary**

**Valerie Riley** lives in Irmo, South Carolina, a suburb of Columbia. She is a registered nurse and a devoted altar guild member alongside her mother/mentor, **Mary McLemore**. Valerie is active in her church's outreach programs and has a heart for those in need. *(More information will be in next issue - ran out of time and room!)*



**Phyllis Bruce, Treasurer**

**Phyllis Olivier Bruce** was received into the Episcopal Church at St. Paul's, Daphne, Alabama, in April 1999. Her first volunteer activity in the church was a building mission trip to Honduras in 2000. She enjoys working with groups and has served with the kitchen crew for special events. She has also served a term with the Vestry and completed the four-year EFM course. Phyllis is co-chair of the altar guild. She handles St. Paul's active e-mail prayer chain and participates with Family Promise. A tenor, Phyllis is currently taking a break from "active duty" in the choir after many years. Phyllis married Jere Bruce in 1972 and was a devoted wife until his death in 2010. She has been a Girl Scout leader and was president of the swim team and band parent's groups during her children's formative years. Phyllis is the mother of two, John and Meagan, and has one grandson age 10. She began her working career as a clerk-typist: first with Prudential Life Insurance, then the Selective Service Administration, followed by four years with the U.S. Navy. She took a thirteen-year hiatus when she became a mother and returned to the working world in 1986. Phyllis retired in 2008 from her second career as a budget analyst with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition to all her church activities, she enjoys working in her garden and traveling whenever the chance arises.

**PROVINCE IV ALTAR GUILD OFFICERS & BOARD**  
(June 2019 to June 2021)

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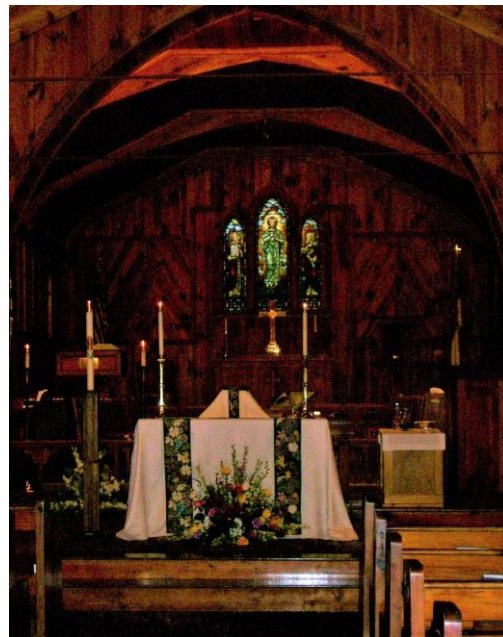
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**Chapel of the Transfiguration at Kanuga**