

The Trompette

The Newsletter of the Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

NOVEMBER, 2009

VOLUME 9, #3

From the Dean's Bench...

Dear Colleagues,

As near as we are to Manhattan, I call your attention to the cover story of the November issue of The American Organist magazine concerning the "Resurgence of a Landmark Instrument – the Restoration of the Great Organ in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine". It is an illuminating chronology of the Aeolian-Skinner organ installed in 1910, describing its various modifications, including the restoration that was underway at the time of the fire in 2001. I visited the Cathedral about a year ago, and it would make a worthwhile trip to Upper Manhattan. If you go, and if you don't suffer from acrophobia, be sure to take the Vertical Tour. Additional information on the organ may be found at:

http://www.stjohndivine.org/worship_organ.html

We had an exceptional turnout for October's program "The Chorale as Cantus Firmus", presented magnificently by Robert Fertitta. He performed and commented on over a dozen chorale prelude compositions, each of which illustrated a different treatment of the chorale melody. Many thanks to **Carlton Maaia II** for hosting the event at Memorial UMC, and most especially to **Judy Abel, Lois Simmonds** and **Joyce Gardner** for their efforts in coordinating the delicious refreshments.

The Board has reviewed and approved the Chapter's operating procedures, prepared and submitted by the Bylaws Committee, and they can be found in this issue. Please review them prior to their discussion and proposed adoption at the Chapter's General Membership Meeting which will take place immediately following our February 7, 2010 program at the Church of the Highlands, White Plains. (Its snow date is February 21st.) Should you have any questions or comments about the operating procedures please contact me or any member of the Bylaws Committee (**Alice Avouris, Joyce Gardner, and Joe Nigro**). Many thanks to the Committee for its work

I look forward to seeing you at our November program, one that I know you will find very interesting.

Sincerely,

John

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JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PROGRAM OF THE SEASON!

November 15, 2009, Sunday, 4PM

Anthem Rehearsal Techniques

Presenter: Dr. Robert Lau

Host: Dr. John King

**Hitchcock Presbyterian Church
6 Greenacres Avenue
Scarsdale, New York
914/723.3311**



Directions from the Bronx River Parkway:

FROM NORTH: Going South on the Bronx River Parkway, take Exit 16 (Greenacres Avenue) and turn left at the top of the ramp. The Church is directly ahead.

FROM SOUTH: Going North on the Bronx River Parkway, take Exit 15 (Fenimore Road) and turn right at the top of the ramp. Make an immediate left onto Walworth Avenue and the Church will be on your left at the end of the block.

WESTCHESTER AGO

2009-2010

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

January 3, 2010 *Twelfth Night Gathering at 4pm!!!!*
Hosts: Joe & Michelle Nigro

February 7, 2010, Sunday, 4PM: *Historical Organ Methods.*
Presenter & Host: Dr. Robert Chase
Church of the Highlands, White Plains.
(SNOW DATE is 2/21/10).

Note: A General Membership Meeting will be held immediately following this program.

March 6, 2010, SATURDAY, 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM, *Preparation for AGO Certification & Advancement Workshop.*
Presenter: Dr. Jan-Piet Knijff
Host: Donald Butt, The Church of St. Barnabas, Irvington.

May 23, 2010, Sunday, 4PM: *Member Recital.*
Coordinator: Alice Avouris
Host: Andrew Sheranian, Christ's Church, Rye.

NOVEMBER CONCERT CALENDAR

Nope.

READS & MIXTURES

I thought you would like to know of some of the changes that have been made to the website. In addition to my adding a page for each of the meetings with photos from the meeting – if we have any -- I have added two significant sections this year. I will be placing the *Trompettes* on the website as pdf files. However, I will attempt to remove all personal information – which would include phone numbers, addresses, directions to people’s houses, etc. Obviously, for this personal information, you can simply look in your member directory. Also, I have added a page that includes the current sub list. Again, personal contact information is missing, but you can find that information in your member directory. If you have been looking at it, you will notice that I have included photos of various pipe organs in the county. If your church has a pipe organ and you would like your photo(s) included, please e-mail me clear photos, and I will add them as I have time. Good times to take the photos are when the church is decorated for Christmas or Easter. I hope you are enjoying the website! If you have not seen it, take a look at www.agowestchester.org

-- Virginia Bender, Webmaster

Our chapter yearbooks were mailed to all members who have paid their dues on October 21. If you haven’t received yours, either the post office lost your copy or we haven’t received your renewal. In either case, please contact our registrar, Kevin Walsh (krwkrwkrw@aol.com or 914/376.5907) and we’ll get things squared away.

If there are any corrections or updates to your information, please send them to Kevin.

By the way, if you have NOT yet renewed, the November issue of *The American Organist* will be your last, and this will be your last issue of *The Trompette*. Renew today and continue to be part of the AGO. If you need another copy of your renewal form, let Kevin know and he’ll be happy to send one to you.

-- Kevin Walsh, Registrar

”STILL LOOKING FOR WORKERS!!”

The Executive Committee has positions & tasks to be filled by those of you who would like to have an increased role in the work and activities of the Chapter. Do your colleagues and yourself a service by volunteering to head up one of these important activities:

Chapter Historian

Hospitality Coordinator

(Organize refreshments for the year or for one event. Chef skills not required!)

Publicity Coordinator

I n t e r e s t e d ?

Please contact the Dean with any questions!

FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER EDITORS...

Thank you all for your cooperation in getting your material **TO US** by the **20th of each preceding month**. We want to be able to deliver the Newsletter to you on or about the 1st of each month, and it takes a week or more to finalize the copy and layout, get it to and from the printer, and address, stamp and mail all of the copies.

The Trompette is sent out by email, and by regular mail to those Members without an email address. The electronic versions are sent out immediately after finalization, but processing the printed copies can take a week or more, plus the delivery of the regular postal mail can additionally take a week or more. If you have an email address, but are presently receiving your copy by postal mail, consider receiving it electronically instead, saving the Chapter postage expense. Send your email address to: lvsimmonds@hotmail.com

Kindly do not send in items more than once. For the Concert Calendar, include event, date, time, location, cost (if any) and an information phone number. (Incomplete or unclear submissions cannot be printed.) Due to space constraints, articles and notices are edited.

If you have provided a notice for the “Empty Benches” section, please be advised that postings will be carried for 3 calendar months unless we are advised that the position has either been filled or is still active. Newest listings appear first. Listings carried more than one month will be arranged alphabetically by organization and will indicate the month they were first run. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping *The Trompette* accurate and up-to-date.

Send your concert notices, articles, and other materials to:

E-mail: (preferable): PLEYGUY@aol.com (Compose in MS Word, if possible)

Postal Mail: T. Zachacz, *The Trompette*,

The Dean and the Executive Board encourage our Members to send informative articles and any other items of interest for publication in the Newsletter.

Thank you!

Lois Simmonds & Thomas Zachacz

Editors,

The Trompette

***Here is the LATEST issue of the
Westchester Chapter AGO Newsletter.....***

Inside:

Learn about our next meeting featuring Robert Lau and his “Anthem Rehearsal Techniques”; Behold our sublime schedule of remaining events for the 2009 -- 2010 Season; Important Membership & Website announcements; And we got *Empty Benches!*

***Please mark your calendar now
so you won't miss an important date!***

**Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
The Trompette
Lois Simmonds &
Thomas Zachacz, Editors**