

The Trompette

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

DECEMBER, 2009 & JANUARY, 2010

VOLUME 9, #4 & #5

From the Dean's Bench...

Dear Colleagues,

I trust everyone's Thanksgiving celebrations were healthy and hearty! Now we are approaching another Holiday season, usually meaning that most of us are scurrying about engaging in planning special musical events, putting in extra time for practicing, making lists, writing cards and greetings, traveling to the malls for those one-of-a-kind presents, attending concerts, reviewing recipes for those must-make dishes, wrapping gifts, getting our home into some semblance of order should we be expecting family or friends to visit, and of course, making those New Year's resolutions and reservations. Amidst all of this frenetic activity, we need to remember a few things. We need to pause and smell the roses, and enjoy the holiday spirit and scene around us. We need to reflect upon the meaning of the holidays to ourselves, our family and friends. We need to experience the pure joy of the season, while remembering that for some who have suffered recent personal losses this time of year can be a sad or difficult time as well. If we know of individuals for whom this may be the case, we need to give them a call, or look in on them, or invite them come to a concert with us. Let's spread a little merriment, and live the spirit of the season!

At our November program Dr. Robert Lau engaged a very attentive audience, and delivered numerous useful suggestions for effectively rehearsing anthems with our choirs. We are grateful to the enthusiastic hosting efforts of past dean **Dr. John King** in meeting our every need at beautiful Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, and to Sub-Dean **Alice Avouris** for a most wonderful reception. 2009 has been a banner year for the Chapter. We've experienced excellent growth, had great attendance at marvelous programs presented and hosted by remarkable individuals at exceptional venues, made many new friends, broadened our scope and resources and we've had a lot of fun doing it all. Thanks to all of you for all you have done to make this past year such an extraordinary and memorable time.

I wish you joy and blessings for your holidays, and a most happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

John

WESTCHESTER AGO EXECUTIVE BOARD

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John Cecconi

SUB-DEAN

Alice Avouris

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

Dr. Robert A. Chase
Dr. Jan-Piet Knijff

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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Rev. Kevan T. Hitch

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MEMBERSHIP

Joyce Gardner

PLACEMENT / SUBSTITUTES

Judith Abel

WEBMASTER

Virginia Bender

**JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT
PROGRAM OF THE SEASON!**

January 3, 2010 at 4:00pm

***Twelfth Night
Gathering***

Hosts: Joe & Michelle Nigro



WESTCHESTER AGO

2009-2010

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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: *Members' Choice Recital.*

Participants are asked to choose a favorite piece of theirs,
and briefly explain why they feel that way.

Those planning to participate should contact Alice.

Coordinator: Alice Avouris

Host: Andrew Sheranian, Christ's Church, Rye.

READS & MIXTURES



"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 (Keep a box filled with history in your house.)

Hospitality Coordinator (Organize refreshments for the year or for one event.)

Publicity Coordinator (Got any ideas?)

I n t e r e s t e d y e t ?

Please contact the Dean with any questions!

Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, recorded live in March 2008 by The New Choral Society and directed by Dr. John King, is available for purchase by mail. The price: \$15 (plus \$2 shipping for mail orders). To order: Call 914/725.1678 or e-mail info@newchoralsociety.org Please be sure and include your mailing address and contact phone number.

Welcome the Newest Members to our Chapter!

Please add them to your 2009/2010 Yearbook!

Goldsmith, Jeremy BMus, MM

Kim, Mi-Won BMus, MM



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

DECEMBER & JANUARY CONCERT CALENDAR

Friday, December 4th, 8:00pm

Bach: *Christmas Oratorio, Part VI* and Handel: *Messiah, Part I* – The New Chorale Society, featuring Arianna Zukerman (soprano), Abigail Nims (mezzo soprano), John Bellemer (tenor) and Christopher Temporelli (bass-baritone). Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, 6 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY. Ticket prices are \$25 -- Preferred Seating, \$20 -- General Admission and \$15 -- Seniors and Students (for General Admission only). 914/725-1678 or www.newchoralsociety.org

Saturday, December 5th, 7:30pm

A Times Square Christmas – Works of Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Billings, Rutter and concluding with a *Festival of Carols*. The TreasureHouse Chorale and Chamber Orchestra conducted by Joseph Nigro. Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, 145 West 46th Street, NYC. Tickets are \$10 at the door or in advance by calling 914/318.3268. For directions or information: www.treasurehousemusic.org

Sunday, December 6th, 3:00pm

Bach: *Christmas Oratorio, Part VI* and Handel: *Messiah, Part I* – The New Chorale Society, featuring Arianna Zukerman (soprano), Abigail Nims (mezzo soprano), John Bellemer (tenor) and Christopher Temporelli (bass-baritone). Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, 6 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY. Ticket prices are \$25 -- Preferred Seating, \$20 -- General Admission and \$15 -- Seniors and Students (for General Admission only). 914/725-1678 or www.newchoralsociety.org

Sunday, December 6th, 7:30pm

A Times Square Christmas – Works of Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Billings, Rutter and concluding with a *Festival of Carols*. The TreasureHouse Chorale and Chamber Orchestra conducted by Joseph Nigro. Church of the Ascension, 470 Westchester Avenue, Tuckahoe, NY. Tickets are \$10 at the door or in advance by calling 914/318.3268. For directions or information: www.treasurehousemusic.org

Friday, December 11th, 2009, 8:00 pm

Medieval, Contemporary, and Traditional Christmas Music. The Maryknoll Choir, instrumentalists and soloists Judy Abel conducting. Main Chapel, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Ossining, NY. A reception follows in the Spellman Room.

Saturday, December 12th, 7:00pm

Christmas in New City -- Advent-Christmas Concert featuring works of Mozart, Handel, Mendelssohn, Biebl and others, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the death of Handel, and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn. Performances by Saint Augustine Choir, guest soloists, pipe organ and chamber orchestra. Program concludes with traditional and contemporary carols. Reception follows. Saint Augustine Church, 140 Maple Avenue, New City, NY. Tickets are \$10, available at the door or in advance by calling 845/634.2407

Saturday, December 12th, 8:00pm

A Very English Christmas. The Master Singers of Westchester, with Les Robinson Hadsell conducting, will present Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* accompanied by Harp and Keyboard. Additionally, they will perform other holiday selections composed by Handel, John Rutter and Vaughan Williams. Bedford Presbyterian Church, The Village Green at the intersection of Routes 172 and 22, Bedford. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for students and seniors. For ticket information call 914/645.0705 or e-mail mastersingers@worldnet.att.net
For a full list of pieces go to <http://www.angelfire.com/music/mastersingers/>

Sunday, December 13th, 3:00pm

Carol Sing – Just come and sing already. Thomas Zachacz, organist. The Union Church of Pocantico Hills, 555 Bedford Road, Sleepy Hollow, NY. FREE ADMISSION. 914/631.2069

Sunday, December 13th, 4:00pm

A Very English Christmas. The Master Singers of Westchester, with Les Robinson Hadsell conducting, will present Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* accompanied by Harp and Keyboard. Additionally, they will perform other holiday selections composed by Handel, John Rutter and Vaughan Williams. Bedford Presbyterian Church, The Village Green at the intersection of Routes 172 and 22, Bedford. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for students and seniors. For ticket information call 914/645.0705 or e-mail mastersingers@worldnet.att.net
For a full list of pieces go to <http://www.angelfire.com/music/mastersingers/>

Sunday, December 13th, 7:30pm

A Times Square Christmas – Works of Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Billings, Rutter and concluding with a Festival of Carols. The TreasureHouse Chorale and Chamber Orchestra conducted by Joseph Nigro. Saint James Church, 16 Gleneida Avenue (Route 52), Carmel, NY. Call 845/225.2079 for tickets and information. For directions: www.treasurehousemusic.org

Sunday, December 20, 4 pm

Festival of Carols for Christmas -- Candlelit celebration of the festive season. Sing favorite carols in stunning arrangements for double brass quartet and organ. The West Point Brass, The Choirs and Soloists of Grace Church, Timothy Lewis, Director A reception follows. Admission is free. Donations to defray expenses gladly accepted.

Sunday, December 20th, 7:00pm

A Times Square Christmas – Works of Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Billings, Rutter and concluding with a Festival of Carols. The TreasureHouse Chorale and Chamber Orchestra conducted by Joseph Nigro. Saint Denis Church, Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction, NY. Tickets and information by calling 845/227.8382. For directions: www.treasurehousemusic.org

Wednesday, December 23rd, 12:10pm

Festival of Brass and Organ – Members of West Point Brass and organist Timothy Lewis join in a festive musical salute to Christmas. www.DTMusic.org

Wednesday, January 6th, 12:10pm

King of Instruments - Organist Elizabeth Wong. www.DTMusic.org

Sunday, January 31st, 3:00pm

City Called Heaven – Choral festival with gospels music, spirituals and narrative. Free-will offering to aid C.H.O.P. A reception will follow the performance. The Reformed Church of Cortlandtown, 2124 Albany Post Road, Montrose, NY. Please call Alice Avouris, Reformed Church Music Director, at 914/737.6482 if you wish to sing in the choir.

EMPTY BENCHES.

Substitute (or permanent) Organist/Pianist (Third announcement) -- to play Sunday morning service, 10:00am, beginning immediately. This is a small congregation affiliated with the Reformed Church in America. The congregation loves good organ music and has a core of singers who occasionally enjoy forming a choir. They would like someone to fill the position on a permanent basis. Choir directing would be optional and salary would be negotiable. Applicants for the permanent position should submit a resume. Substitute pay is \$150.00. Hawthorne Reformed Church, 65 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Contact Susan Lehmkuhl, Church secretary, 914/769.2920 Ext. 10 and leave a message.

Organist/Music Director (Third announcement) – Roman-Catholic parish of 2,000 families seeks an organist to accompany five weekend services. Other duties include directing adult and children's choirs, and accompanying the bilingual choir. Salary is negotiable. Please contact Father Morris at St. Bernard's Church in White Plains, NY, 914/949.2111 or RM5154@yahoo.com.

SUBSTITUTE LIST -- NOVEMBER 15, 2009 WESTCHESTER CHAPTER AGO



Here it is, *yet again*, in response to incessant requests from the membership.

We hope you enjoy it.

Judith Abel (Weddings, Funerals) --

Marilyn Ballantine

Dorothy Beach

Virginia Bender

Owen Borda

Henry Brooks (Saturdays, Christian)

Ralph Burkhart (Synagogue services & Sundays after 11 AM)

Michael Goodman (Christian & Jewish)

Deborah Jones-Norberto

Carolyn Karlsrud (Winter months only)

Margaret Kim

Eileen Laurence (Synagogue services)

Richard Piluso (Catholic services)

Edna Schloton

NOTE:

***If you want your name added or subtracted from this list,
please contact Judy Abel***

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:

Once again, view our compelling schedule of remaining events for the 2009 -- 2010 Season; Get ready for our Twelfth Night Celebration; Website announcement; Our stunning list of substitutes; We got the same old *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