

# The Trompette

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

JULY, 2010

VOLUME 9, #11

## *From the Dean's Bench*

*Summertime, and the livin' is easy –*

But what is happening up in the organ loft? It's hot, it's stuffy, and the choir couldn't sing there even if we *did* have a formal summer choir. The music suddenly seems stuffy, too – one feels we need a change – the old favorite composers are sounding too familiar, and (dare we say it) are boring us a little.

The AGO National Convention comes to the rescue! (Sunday, July 4 through Thursday, July 8 in Washington DC. See [www.AGO2010.org](http://www.AGO2010.org) for more information.)

I have great hopes for this convention. I want ideas: about new organ music and new choir music, about increasing the choir membership, about getting my congregation to *sing*. And if there are any gurus there, I'd like to know if there is a cure for church musician malaise! After twelve years and five pastors at one church with declining membership (not to mention the evaporating choir), I could use some magical words of wisdom.

I guess I am asking a lot of this convention, but I'm pretty sure I won't be disappointed. Judy Abel (Sub-Dean) and I are driving down together and sharing a room, and if we can survive that we'll write about our experiences for the next newsletter!

Meanwhile, the summer stretches out ahead with, hopefully for many of us, more time to reflect on why we're here (in the stuffy organ loft), to practice and plan, maybe to create our own musical voice, or take a break from traditional church music and try something new. At meetings in the coming year we can share our problems and solutions, funny stories and successes, both big and little. Till then, have a wonderful summer, and maybe Judy and I will see you at the Convention!

Bye for now,

*Alice Avouris*

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# Reads & Mixtures

Please welcome our newest member...

**Wallace, Edwin**  
Organist/Choir Director, Ardsley Methodist

## *EMPTY BENCHES*

*None Submitted.*



# JULY CONCERT CALENDAR



## July 13 – Tuesday – 7:30 PM

Summer Sing: *Elijah*. John King directing the New Choral Society of Westchester. Music Conservatory of Westchester, 216 Central Avenue, White Plains. \$10 (\$8 students) includes refreshments and use of score. 914/761.3900.

## July 21 – Wednesday – 7:30 PM

Northern Westchester Flutes is playing at the Chappaqua Library, Alice Avouris and others perform works by Michal Rosiak, Alex Shapiro, Nancy Wood, Fred J. Allen, Paquito D'Rivera, Franz Schubert, G.F. Handel, and Ricky Lombardo. Chappaqua Library, 195 South Greeley Avenue, Chappaqua. Free-will contribution. 914/707.0617

**SUBSTITUTE LIST AS OF June 2010  
WESTCHESTER CHAPTER AGO**

Judith Abel (weekday & Sunday weddings, funerals)  
Dorothy Beach  
Carolyn Karlsrud (winter months only)  
Virginia Bender  
Michael Goodman (Christian & Jewish)  
Owen Borda  
Edna Schloton  
Marilyn Ballantine  
Eileen Laurence (Saturdays, Christian & Jewish)  
Richard Piluso (Catholic services)  
Margaret Kim  
Deborah Jones.Norberto  
Nancy Hastings (Saturdays, Protestant or Catholic)  
Timothy Keenan.Devlin (Catholic weddings, funerals,  
& Saturday-night Masses)  
John Dominick

Note: If you would like your name to be 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 **20<sup>th</sup> of each preceding month**. We want to be able to deliver the Newsletter to you on or about the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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): (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:***

***Concert Calendar; no Empty Benches; new Substitute List.***

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***The Trompette***