



The Trompette



The Newsletter of the Westchester Chapter - American Guild of Organists

JANUARY 2012

VOLUME 11, #5

Greetings from the Dean...

It's a new year, and somehow I think 2012 will be especially wonderful! There's something positive-sounding about 'two-thousand twelve', and call me crazy, but the number itself just looks hopeful. We're over the 10th anniversary of 9/11; troops are back from Iraq; it's a whole new beginning, or can be for us who work to make it so.

Where do you find inspiration for a new beginning?

Recently I had a phone conversation with former Westchester Chapter member Carol Obligado. Carol and I became acquainted 20 years ago, when I had just begun to play the organ at a small Episcopal church in Granite Springs, while Carol was a few miles away at St. Mary's Episcopal in Shrub Oak. We joined choirs for a Christmas concert, and her encouragement was very important to me. Some years ago she moved to Cape May, where she is organist and choir director at two churches: The Episcopal Church of the Advent and First Presbyterian Church of Cape May. This is possible because the morning service with music at the Presbyterian Church starts at 9:00 a.m. while the second mass (with music) at the Episcopal Church begins at 10:30. Also, Carol merely has to walk/run very briskly from one church to the other, almost next door! To make it even more fun, Carol is a member of the "Joyful Ringers" (Presbyterian) and directs the bell choir at the Church of the Advent.

Choirs from both churches often join together for concerts and special services, and Cape May, like Westchester, is bustling with music-making. Recently, under Carol's direction, a premiere of a new Christmas cantata, "Winds of Bethlehem," by Jane Sbarra (also formerly of Westchester County) was performed, again with members of both churches participating.

I admire and am inspired by people like Carol. By her energy and enthusiasm she brings people together, and has a wonderful time doing it! I'm sure that the pastors of each congregation are 100% behind her. But I don't need to go all the way to Cape May, New Jersey for inspiration; we are a Chapter filled with energetic, brilliant musicians who every week affirm their denomination's message to congregations. When we begin a meditative prelude, or direct the Choir in a rousing introit, or introduce an opening hymn, we are the messengers of peace, of hope, and the comfort and strength of community.

For all of you who, in your various ways, work to make our world a better place through music, a very Happy New Year!

Alice Avouris

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Westchester AGO

2011-2012 Program Schedule

Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. (Snow Date: January 15th)

TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY

At the home of **Dr. Robert Chase**, White Plains
Please contact pot luck coordinator Alice Avouris

Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Hymn Fest of African-American, Hispanic & other non-traditional ethnic hymns

Rye Presbyterian Church
Host: **Kevin Walters**

Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 4:00

"Members' Compositions"

Saint Columbanus Church, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
Host: **Karen Longwell**

April 22, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Choral Reading

The Larchmont Temple
Host/Presenter: **Jayson Rodovsky-Engquist**

May 20, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Member Recital: "Members Choice"

The Mount Kisco Presbyterian Church
Host: **Terence J. Flanagan**
Coordinator: **Judith Abel**

June 2012 – Date and venue to be determined

Theatre Organ Excursion or Organ Crawl

Date and venue to be determined

Concert Calendar

The Osborn Chapel

101 Theall Road, Rye, NY 10580

"2ND SUNDAYS at THE OSBORN"

30-minute Organ Recitals at The Osborn Chapel at 2 PM

Jan. 8, 2012 at 2 PM: Jayson Rodovsky Engquist

Admission is FREE -- All are welcome

Reads & Mixtures

We are indebted to **John Cecconi, WAGO Editor and Chaplain**, for continuing to edit and publish this newsletter, ever since our previous Editor, Tom Zachacz, left the area. The month's go by very quickly, but *The Trompette* is always on time! Thank you, John, and Co-Editor Lois Simmonds, for your dedication.

Don't you love our new raspberry-colored **Directory**? **Kevin Walsh**, our enthusiastic and meticulous (theater-organ crazy) Registrar has been working extra-hard lately with all the new members who have recently joined the Chapter. On behalf of all of us, thank you, Kevin!

Virginia Bender, Webmaster and Chapter Secretary, lets no moss grow under her fingers when a Chapter event has passed – she inserts a 'blurb' and picture onto our website (agowestchester.org) as soon as the reception is cleared away. Thank you Ginny for your beautiful contributions, and please tell us how you missed getting the procrastination gene.

If you have a friend or colleague interested in joining Westchester AGO, and our next meeting isn't for weeks, have them contact **Joyce Gardner**. She is the go-to board member for information about joining and membership brochures, and we are grateful for her warm cordiality.

Kathryn Jones, WAGO Treasurer, manages to squeeze these important duties into a schedule which consists of rehearsals every day and night at her busy position as organist, director of multiple choirs and bell choirs at Huguenot Memorial in Pelham. The solution? We meet infrequently at Starbuck's in Briarcliff. Life is hard.

Sub-Dean Judith Abel has been appointed by the Board to head a Nominating Committee, which includes Timothy Keenan-Devlin and Rick Tripodi. They will be searching for our next Dean, Sub-Dean and two new Directors to serve beginning July 2012. (My, how time flies!) Our thanks go to the Nominating Committee for accepting this important service to the Chapter.

Have you noticed the remarkable job that **Judy Abel** and **Jayson Engquist** have been doing, alerting interested members to sub positions and new empty benches? Talk about communication!! Thank you so much, Judy and Jayson; you are an amazing team.

IMPORTANT: Coming up soon is the **Twelfth Night Party**, hosted by **Dr. Robert and Jenny Chase**, Sunday, January 8th at 4:00 p.m. Robert Chase is the WAGO Professional Development and Education Chair, and his History of the Westchester Chapter was a topic of our September meeting. For the Twelfth Night Party I'll be the refreshments coordinator, so please call or e-mail me, Alice Avouris and tell what you would like to bring. And thanks to Robert and Jenny for allowing us into your beautiful home!

>>>>>>>> Remember: our 'snow-date' is Sunday, January 15th.

AGO National Annual Fund

Can you take a few minutes of your time to give to the Annual Fund? Many of you have contributed this year already, but if not, or if you would like to contribute again, any amount is appreciated. It's up to all of us to support our favorite instrument! There's an envelope in the current TAO, or you can go on-line to Agohq.org and follow the instructions.

Cross-Choral Training™ Workshop with the Brooklyn Youth Chorus Saturday, January 28, 2012, 10am to 5pm

Explore the voice training methods of the Grammy® Award-winning Brooklyn Youth Chorus and learn how these singers have prepared to perform successfully with both world-class symphony orchestras and popular recording artists in the same season. BYCA's C-CT™ method is functional voice training applied in a group setting, based on the latest information on voice science and knowledge of the young voice. Through the development of vocal registers and resonance adjustments, singers develop the capacity to perform music of diverse genres and styles authentically, and to respond to musical and expressive demands of the most challenging choral repertoire.

To register, visit <http://www.brooklynouthchorus.org/teacher+training>

AGO National Convention

Oh boy, it's that time again, and this time it's irresistible. No; I'm not talking about Lindt chocolate truffles, but the AGO National Convention in Nashville!! It runs from July 1st to the 6th. Registration is now open, and just looking at Monday's events makes my mouth water. Here are just some of the titles: *Historical Performance Practice: Baroque and Classical Eras; Renaissance Motets for the Smaller Church Choir; The Transcriptive Organist: Accompanying from Orchestral and Piano Reductions; Adapting Conducting Gestures for Music from All Periods; New Music by Chinese, Japanese and Korean Composers* – these I picked to include because I think they are new and interesting, but look on-line (WWW.AGO2012.ORG) and you'll find what you love. Also from the site are these pertinent facts:

- Early registration is open until February 14.
- Convention hotels in the heart of downtown @ \$168 per day
- Luxury motor coaches, with no need for early-morning departure times
- Ample time between events for meals
- All [venues](#) air-conditioned
- [65 workshops](#), all in the morning and just steps from your hotel room
- Recitals and [worship services](#) in the afternoon

And if you wish to use regular mail, you can call 615-800-8949 for a registration packet.

That's it till next month! See you at the Twelfth Night Party!

Alice Avouris, Dean

Empty Benches

ORGANIST

(Dec. 2011)

St. Aedan's Roman Catholic Church
Pearl River, N.Y.

Three masses per Sunday, Wednesday night choir rehearsal. Extra masses for holidays
Pay per mass conforms to Archdiocese of New York guidelines
Allen three-manual electric organ, a recent model with digital alternatives
Easy access to building for personal practice times
Convenient Rockland County location, close to Palisades Parkway exit
Contact Scott Walters, elliescottsydney@yahoo.com, 845-558-1225

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

(Dec. 2011)

Mt. Kisco United Methodist Church
300 Main St.
Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

We are seeking an energetic, creative and organized director of music. Knowledge of a wide variety of musical styles required, including traditional Protestant hymnody.

Must be a team player interested in working with musicians of all ages and abilities.

One Sunday service per week, plus Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Salary is between \$15,000 and \$17,000.

Instruments: Allen Digital organ with antiphonal, Steinway grand piano

Please send cover letter and resume to Matt Curry, mount.kisco@yahoo.com, 914-666-5014

ALTO/COUNTERTENOR STAFF SINGER

(Dec. 2011)

Christ's Church (Episcopal)
Rye, NY

Join the choir of this traditional Episcopal music program. The parish choir (staff singers, adults, teenagers and choristers) sing at weekly services of either Holy Communion or Morning

Prayer and rehearse weekly on Thursday evenings. There are also regular extra-liturgical events, including services of Choral Evensong, Solemn Requiem for All Souls, the usual Holy

Week liturgies, and events around Christmas. The ideal candidate will be an excellent sight-reader, with a straight-toned, blending voice capable of performing in a wide range of musical styles in the Anglican tradition.

For further information, or to have an informal discussion about the position, please contact Ruairaidh Sutherland, the Organist & Director of Music, on (914) 967-1749 ext. 229 or at music@ccrye.org

ORGANIST and CHOIR DIRECTOR

(Nov. 2011)

All Saints' Episcopal Church

Harrison, N.Y.

The ideal candidate brings strong training credentials and work history, along with a passion for servant ministry and the musical empowerment of the congregation.

Performs on the organ/piano and directs the parish choir(s) for Sunday, Feast Day and other public worship services;

Selects hymns and other liturgical music in consultation with the Rector;

Participates in staff, worship committee and other meetings as requested by the Rector;

Recruits and prepares parishioners of all ages to sing in the parish choir(s);

Maintains the parish's music library and purchases new material within the constraints of the parish budget;

Supervises maintenance of the organ and other parish instruments;

Retains supplemental or substitute musicians within the constraints of the parish budget;

Provides musical support for weddings, funerals and other special services.

The position presumes 15 hours per week. As with all Episcopal Church parish employees, the incumbent serves at the pleasure of the rector and participates in annual performance review.

Position pays a \$16,000 annually plus prevailing taxes and four Sundays of paid vacation leave.

Interested candidates should email a C.V. or resume to office@allsaintsharrison.org.

ORGANIST

(Nov. 2011)

St. Aedan's Roman Catholic Church

Pearl River, N.Y.

Play 3 masses per Sunday with 1 choir rehearsal on Wednesday night, weddings and special liturgies. Knowledge of Catholic liturgy would be helpful. Position will start in October.

Contact Scott Walters Scottthetenor@yahoo.com

ORGANIST

(Nov. 2011)

St. Charles Borromeo Church

Dover Plains, N.Y.

Services (Masses) are Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and 11:45am; Pipe Organ, small church.

Stipend is \$125 (subject to change)

The contact person is Fr. Anthony Guiliano at 914 963-7474

DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES

(Nov. 2011)

Ridgewood United Methodist Church

Ridgewood, N.J.

See job posting on AGO website – www.agohq.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC / MUSIC DIRECTOR

(Oct. 2011)

Greenville Community Church

*270 Ardsley Road
Scarsdale, NY, 10583*

Job Responsibilities and Duties:

- Play the organ or piano for Sunday 9:00 a.m. choir rehearsal and 10:00 a.m. worship services, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, and Maundy Thursday services.
- Play also for weddings, funerals and other special services as mutually agreed.
- Accompany the children's choir for occasional Sunday rehearsals and performances. Select music in advance of services in cooperation with the minister.
- Arrange for substitute organist/pianists when needed in cooperation with the minister.

Job Skills and Requirements

- Love for music and appreciation of multiple musical styles including classical, traditional hymnology, and gospel.
- Formal education in music performance.
- Experience as a pianist and organist in public performance.
- Ability to work well in a church setting with a diversity of people.

We have great Steinway Concert D and a small, but sweet pipe organ in need of a rebuild. We have a choir master who is also our baritone, so the person would not be working alone.

Contact Dorothy Lee: Dorothy.K.Lee@morganstanley.com // or

Edward Schreur, pastor 914-723-1266

EXECUTIVE MANAGER

(Dec. 2011)

Scholar On Hudson

Montclair, NJ, and Manhattan

We are seeking an individual with managerial skill and experience, and ability to speak comfortably with individuals and groups, ideally with a background from within non-profit performing arts. The new Executive Manager will be expected be hands-on with some elements of operations, and manage the outsourcing of the others. He/she will serve, along with the Artistic Director, as SCH's 'public face.' Pro-active development of both Montclair, NJ, and

Manhattan, as bases for performance and board growth, is expected. Vehicle accessibility within the Montclair area is a plus. The position will oversee operations and personnel management, and will have visionary involvement. The position will start at ¾ time, with the anticipation of expansion in the near term to full time. Recommendations welcome.

For more details, Contact Dr. Deborah Simpkin King, Artistic Director and Founder at (973) 698-6927, or to apply, send CV with letter of interest: ArtisticDirector@ScholaOnHudson.org
Applications reviewed upon submission. Interviews in Dec. Projected start date: Jan. 2012
Web page: <http://www.scholaonhudson.org>

Note: In addition to the local listings above, Members should check the National AGO website / TAO and the ChoralNet website for jobs within the Region

REMINDER: Send all requests for substitute organists to Jayson Rodovsky-Engquist, He will then broadcast them to our sub list. Send (or call) notices of "empty benches" to Judy Abel. She will then broadcast them to the chapter membership.

2-manual Rodgers organ for sale:

Jamestown Model -- \$3500 or best offer
Great for practice, needs minor repair. Nice condition
Call Joe Nigro

Music is just a means of creating a magical state.

Robert Fripp (b. 1946)
English Musician

From Your Newsletter Editors...

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

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 Lois Simmonds.

Please send us your material by the **20th of each month** to ensure that we will be able to deliver the Newsletter to the membership on or about the 1st of each month. If still relevant, late submissions will be published in the subsequent issue.

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 will not be included.) Due to space constraints, articles and notices are frequently 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:

John Cecconi (MS Word is preferred)

Be sure to visit the Chapter Website: www.agowestchester.org.

Thank you!

John Cecconi
Lois Simmonds
The Trompette Editors

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

Inside:

**Alice's musings; Job postings, Nominations
information, Twelfth Night Gathering,
Nashville Convention ...and much more!**

*Mark your calendar now and you won't miss an
important date!*

Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
The Trompette
John Cecconi &
Lois Simmonds, Editors