

The Trompette



The Newsletter of the Westchester Chapter - American Guild of Organists

AUGUST 2012

VOLUME 11, #12

Greetings from the Dean...

As I write this, I'm home about a week from the Nashville convention. It was a tremendous week, with great music, great workshops, and great company. Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find a detailed review by Judy Abel, who was as impressed as I was. I did talk to a couple of people about events for the chapter, and I had a very nice chat with Charles Kegg, who's building a new organ for Emanuel Lutheran, Pleasantville, where chapter member Michael Brittenback is organist. And I dropped a few dollars with some of the many vendors in the exhibitor hall. One of the sheet music dealers was a surprise: Dowling Music. Their main location is in Houston, but they have a New York store in Steinway Hall. If you don't know how to get there, it's across the street from Carnegie Hall (and if you don't know how to get to Carnegie Hall... *practice!*). Supposedly, it's like Patelson's, only neater. I wish them well.

If Nashville wasn't in your budget, you might think about next year's regional convention in Hartford, CT, from June 30 to July 3. No air fare, and a \$99 per night hotel rate (and a couple of fewer nights). You might check out their website: www.hartfordago.org.

I was barely back from Nashville when it was time for a Board meeting to work on next year's programs. One possible topic that came up was copyright. Compliance with the copyright law is part of the AGO's Code of Professional Standards, and it also protects our churches and schools—and us as individuals—from liability. We want to do the right thing, but sometimes we find ourselves in a grey area and we're not sure what the law actually requires—and sometimes the publishers aren't sure, either. We invite you to send us your questions; we'll compile them into one list and send it to several publishers and share their responses. You can send your questions to dean@agowestchester.org, or snail mail me. If you can get them to me by August 15, that would really help.

As for other possible topics...there are some interesting ones being kicked around, but it's not too late for you to send in suggestions. What will get YOU to come to a meeting?

When I was knee high to a leprechaun, we used to vacation in Wildwood Crest, NJ. I loved the place—still do—but some of the music at church was, well, not what we were used to at home. But with the wisdom of middle age, I think I have more respect for the work of musicians in resort towns. For most of the year, they have small but steady congregations; then, for two or three months, they are packed to the rafters, frequently having additional services, with a bunch of new faces each week. If they introduced a new hymn last week, 90% of this week's people weren't there to hear it. So they are often forced into a narrow repertoire for the summer. (For an extreme case, consider Long Beach Island, NJ. There are four Catholic churches on the island, but only one of them is open year round. The others are open only during the peak months.) I think the challenges are obvious. So, if you find yourself at church or temple in a resort town, say hello to the musicians, and give them a little encouragement. They'll appreciate it. And if they are not members of the Guild, encourage them to check out their local chapter—it might be *almost* as good as Westchester County!

Kevin Walsh

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Concert Calendar

The Osborn

101 Theall Road, Rye, New York 10580

presents

Second Sundays at The Osborn

featuring

CHIA LI SUNG

August 12, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

Reads & Mixtures

The Convention in Nashville

Judy Abel

Every day of the intense week in Music City (June 30 to July 6) held many highlights. My report will touch only on what were, for me, the highest of them.

At the pre-convention concert Saturday night, Wilma Jensen grandly rendered Verne, Tournemire, Honegger, and Escaich on the truly grand Moller organ of West End Methodist Church, followed by the West End Chancel Choir's ethereal rendering of Widor's "Messe a deux choeurs et deux orgues."

On Sunday afternoon, three NYACOP finalists each performed "Fugue in F" by J.S. Bach, a suite by de Grigny, "Ettrick Banks" by Judith Weir, and "Prelude and Fugue on B-A-C-H" by Liszt. Darryl Robinson of Houston, Texas was judged the winner. In the evening, at the opening Festival Worship Service, four compositions by Craig Phillips were featured, notably "Three Sketches for Organ", an AGO commission.

My favorite Monday workshop was given by Randall Engle of Iowa, representing Chorister's Guild. He presented a few carefully chosen pieces, every one of which would be very useful for an adult choir. In the afternoon, the young Spanish superstar, Raul Prieto Ramirez, performed, entirely from memory, Bach's "Prelude and Fugue in G Major," Saint-Saens' "Danse Macabre", Liszt's "Mephisto Waltz", and Guilman's "Sonata No. 1 in D Minor." All magical! For a complete change of pace, the next performers were a Canadian/English organist and a percussionist from the University of Michigan. Their tour de force was a robust rendition of Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals."

Tuesday's best workshop was "Intro. To Sacred Harp Singing" in which we were taught to sing exactly like the authentic Sacred Harp singers do. For me, it was tremendous fun and

could become addicting. In the afternoon, Cherry Rhodes' concert came close to beating Raul's. She performed "Young Girl Carrying Water on a Shoulder Pole" by Chinese composer, Yuankai Bao, a beautiful piece that was poignantly descriptive. Then, she played "Pictures at an Exhibition" by Moussorgsky with such passion and gusto, it left me awestruck. The Schantz organ gave that music so much color, not even an orchestra could have surpassed it. At the evening worship service, West End Chancel Choir's antiphonal singing of "Non Nobis Domine" by Nancy Grundahl (Colla Voce Music, Inc.) was memorable. The after-banquet entertainment that night was the 10-man a cappella singing group, "Straight No Chaser," which originated at the University of Indiana and became famous through a YouTube video. Delightful!

I spent most of the Fourth of July with my family, but went to the hotel to hear the eccentric virtuoso, Hector Olivera, play an astounding program on his Roland Atelier AT-900 Touring Organ. He opened with a guitar sonata, by Rodriguez, I believe, to honor Raul, the Spanish organist. Nothing he played was on the printed program, except for the excerpts from "Scheherazade" by Rimsky-Korsakov.

Interesting performances by "Rising Stars" Tyler Canonico, Michael Hey, and Katelyn Emerson filled Thursday morning. Most outstanding in the afternoon was Sophie-Veronique Cauchefer-Choplin, who is co-titular of the Grand Orgue of Saint Sulpice Paris. After performing Renaud, Couperin, Bach, Franck, Belier, and Grunenwald, she skillfully improvised on "Rocky Top" and "Hyfrydol", and ended with Widor's Symphony No. 6. The spectacular concert that night was given by the a cappella choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, England. After a staidly serious Classical program, exquisitely performed, their final encore, the popular song "At Last", blew the roof off, figuratively speaking.

Two very instructive workshops on effective practice habits were given by Anne Marsden Thomas of Oxford Publishers on Friday morning. In the afternoon, Jane Parker Smith's program was most impressive and Abreum Han's performance of Reger's "Choral Fantasy on Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme" on a big Beckerath organ (in the loft where the temperature was probably in the 90's) was most admirable. That night, we heard the Nashville Symphony in their wonderful, new Schermerhorn Symphony Center (which was modeled on Carnegie Hall). Two organ concertos were performed, one by Roberto Sierra (commissioned by the AGO) and one by Stephen Paulus. The latter, performed by Nathan Laube, showcased the organ very well, so that the orchestra complemented the organ and did not overpower it.

It took six years of planning and preparation to make this convention happen. I, for one, am grateful to the Nashville Chapter for the great experience they provided for me and approximately 2000 other organists from the United States and Canada and two from Europe. Bravo!

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Abel

To place an ad in the new directory, submit the information to Doug Kostner. ¼ page is \$25, ½ page is \$50 and a full page is \$75. See the form that is in the Trompette you received via e-mail or snail mail.

Reminder:

Dues are due! If you haven't already done so please send your dues and advertisement payments (see form on page 4) to our Registrar,
Douglas Kostner

The "too good to throw away" free choral music from The Summerfield Methodist Church in Port Chester is now at All Souls Parish in Port Chester. There is lots of music, and it needs to be adopted! Please contact Joanna Nilsen at 914-738-1254 or jniorgan@hotmail.com for an appointment. It will be available to you from July 27-August 15. BYOB (bring your own boxes).

Terence Kelly

Empty Benches

Parish Organist Opening in Ridgefield, CT (August, 2012)

Location: Ridgefield, [Connecticut](#), USA

Web page: <http://www.ststephens-ridgefield.org>

St Stephen's Episcopal Church in Ridgefield CT seeks a Parish Organist for the Fall of 2012. St Stephen's Church has a long and rich tradition of musical excellence and is a thriving parish located in the center of Ridgefield. The Moller organ was rebuilt and expanded at the supervision of former Minister of Music, Alec Wyton.

The Parish Organist will work under the direction of the Rector and Minister of Music, and will have the following duties:

- Play the organ for the weekly 8 and 10 o'clock Sunday services.
- Accompany weekly rehearsals for the Adult and Children's choirs.
- select, in coordination with the Minister of Music, preludes and postludes.
- Play all special services (Holy Week, Christmas, etc.),concerts, and Evensongs.

-Oversee maintenance of the church organ and pianos.
-Play for the monthly Senior Lunch if no volunteer is available.
In addition, the the Parish Organist will have “right of first refusal” for all weddings and funerals held at St Stephen’s.
The ideal candidate will be a highly skilled organist, proficient in the leading of congregational singing, skilled at improvisation, and able to accompany the choirs at the highest level.
We seek a person of faith, who is a team player, is available and consistent, and who possesses a spirit of collaboration.
Compensation is based on education and experience. This is a 1/4-time (10 hr./week), salaried position.
Please send Resume, any available media, and list of three professional references via mail to St Stephen’s Church, Attn: Minister of Music, 351 Main Street, Ridgefield CT 06877. Applications may be submitted electronically to the Minister of Music, Scott Toperzer at scott.toperzer@me.com

Music Director for The United Methodist Church of Danbury

(August, 2012)

Location: Danbury, [Connecticut](#), USA

Web page: <http://www.danburymethodist.org/>

The Danbury (Connecticut) United Methodist Church seeks an energetic and creative Music Director. Responsibilities include working with the pastor to plan and lead the music for Sunday worship, and selecting and providing music for Sundays and special services throughout the year. We are open to all ideas! Currently there is one service each week. Candidate will direct a choir that provides diverse styles of music, including traditional, contemporary and gospel. The choir rehearses once a week from September to early June. We offer a 1986 Rogers Oxford 925, 3-manual electronic organ and a Samik grand piano. Time commitment is approximately 8-10 hours per week. Salary is in the mid-teens, depending on experience. If interested, please fax cover letter and resume to 203-743-3461, or e-mail to russockc@snet.net. Resumes can also be mailed to C. Russock at the United Methodist Church, 5 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury, CT 06811. The deadline for receiving resumes is Aug.1. If you would like more information about our church, please visit our web site at www.danburymethodist.org or call (203) 952-4314.

Church Organist/Choir Director (P/T) (August, 2012)

St. Michael's Lutheran Church is seeking a person with enthusiasm to lead the worship music of our congregation. Liturgical experience, administrative skills, and team player abilities necessary. People skills important. Classical music is core to our worship, but the congregation and choirs appreciate a variety of musical styles and traditions.

Organ: 2 manual, 24 rank, electric/mechanical pipe 1989 Russell & Co. 3 octaves Suzuki hand chimes; Baldwin upright piano.

Groups: senior choir(10-12); adult chime choir (6); one rehearsal each week. Also recruit and rehearse volunteer instrumentalists for special services, and direct or coordinate volunteer leaders of the Junior choir (6-8).

Services 10:00 weekly (9:00 summer). Seasonal responsibilities: Christmas (3), Wednesday Evening Lenten (6), Holy Week (3). Ascension, alternating Thanksgiving Eve, special commemorations.

Other responsibilities include shared service planning with pastor and attending worship committee meetings. Weddings and Funerals with FRR. Teaching privileges.

SALARY: Negotiable commensurate with education and experience; benefits include social security & medicare; 4 weeks paid vacation.

CONTACT: Resumes accepted by email only. Please send to Sara Pflueger, Search Committee Chairman, at musicsearch@stmichaelslutheran.org. Resume deadline: July 20, 2012. If you have already applied for this position, please do not re-apply.

Director of Music Ministry, part-time (July, 2012)

Christ Episcopal Church, 45 Broadway
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Required background: 1-2 years of experience

Duties include: 1 service/week, 1 rehearsal/week, directing Intergenerational Choir

Instrument: Schlicker 2-manual pipe organ

Salary: \$14,000 - \$20,000/yr. plus miscellaneous benefits

Contact: Susan Copley, Rector@Christchurchtny.com,

Daytime phone: 914-631-2074, Evening phone: 914-909-2984

Christ Episcopal is seeking a director who is open to exploring a broad range of musical styles (incl. traditional, Gospel, contemporary, Taize, jazz, and other), who will encourage the musical talents of parishioners, and who will nurture the gifts of the youth and children.

Director of Music & Organist (July, 2012)

Immediate opening at United Presbyterian Church, 109 Seaside Ave, Milford, CT 06460

As the primary organist and choir director, the Director of Music serves as a resource to support, foster, and coordinate the worship and spiritual life of the congregation through congregational, choral and instrumental music. As a member of the professional staff, the Director of Music works with the clergy, staff and volunteers to plan and coordinate worship services and related activities.

We seek an individual who will nurture and support the diverse musical talents and interests of our congregation. The position will have direct responsibility for our Adult choir. The church also has potential for a chime choir (have chimes but not used for 10+ years) as well as a group of "guitarists" (they currently lead worship twice a year). This position requires basic skills in playing hymns and congregational service music, experience with varied repertoire of traditional and contemporary music as well as choral directing and training of singers.

Duties to include (but not limited to) the following:

Schedule of choir rehearsals to be submitted at least monthly to the church office in order to be posted on the Master calendar (currently, choir rehearsals are Sundays following worship & social hour; about 45 minutes usually 11:15-Noon);

Recruitment & basic training of choir members;

Preserve & organize music inventory (there is an office for the music director);

Meet with Pastor once a month to plan worship services as well as attend Worship & Music committee meetings once a month; quarterly plans are to be submitted & reviewed at these meetings as well as assistance with yearly budget plans;

Responsible for two cantatas – one during each of the Advent-Christmas & Lent-Easter seasons (currently, a Sunday during Advent & on Palm Sunday) as well as special services (e.g. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Seaside Easter service 7:30am, etc.);

Oversee maintenance of musical instruments (scheduling piano tuning, repairs, etc);

Right of first refusal for weddings & funerals at the church with payment from the families based on fee schedule set by the church;

Secure a substitute organist when not available for any service at the church (Sundays away, funerals, weddings, etc);

Interested? Please contact our Pastor, Rev. Anne Marie Meyerhoffer, RevAMM@yahoo.com, or call the church office 203-874-7088. To learn more, please view our website: www.PCUSAmilford.org for a description of our congregation.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR (first listed: June 2012)

Jewish community Center, Harrison, NY

Seeking part-time musical director. Must be able to sight read music and play piano/keyboard. Key responsibilities are to prepare adult chorus for participation High Holidays, Simchat Torah, others) and to rehearse music with Purim Spiel cast members. Rehearsals will generally be a weekday evening, once a week or every other week.

Contact Cantor Israel Singer 914-835-2850, ext 106. cantorsinger@jcch.org

Open section leader position
Christ & Holy Trinity Church
55 Myrtle Avenue, Westport, CT 06880
(203) 227-0827

Christ & Holy Trinity Church, a lively parish of 750 members, seeks **Mezzo-Soprano Section Leader** (S2/A1) for 30-voice Parish Choir (5 pros). Excellent quality music in the Anglican tradition. Sunday service, 9:30 a.m.; Thursday rehearsal, 7:45-9:45 p.m. Additional responsibilities: Choral Evensong, Lessons & Carols, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil.

SALARY: \$145/week with additional pay for holidays, Evensongs, and concerts
CONTACT: Michael Burnette at mburnette@chtwestport.org or (203) 227-0827 x107

Position available: September 6, 2012

Tenor section leader
St. John's Episcopal Church
Washington, CT

Tenor section leader sought for terrific semi-professional choir in Washington, CT.

St. John's Episcopal Church has a long-standing tradition of fine music and a beautiful, historic sanctuary. Classic Anglican repertoire from Tudor motets through English Cathedral classics and American spirituals. Convivial, welcoming community.

Thursday evening rehearsal (7:30 PM -- 9:00 PM) and Sunday morning service (9:00 AM -- 11:15 AM) with additional holy day and special liturgies. \$50/call. Please contact the church office at 860 868-2527 or Choirmaster Alan Murchie at: stjohnmusic@snet.net

***Interesting "job" opportunity for our AGO members
with a children's chorus***

Children's Chorus needed
Location: Newtown, [Connecticut](#), USA
Web page: <http://www.cmchorale.org>

The Connecticut Master Chorale and Orchestra is seeking a children's chorus for a March 2013 performance of a new work by Karl Jenkins entitled "The Peacemakers."

The performance date is Sunday March 3 at 3:00 at St. Rose of Lima Church in Newtown.

There will be one dress rehearsal on Thursday, February 28, and possibly a second one on Tuesday, February 26.

We are looking for 20-25 experienced singers between the ages of 10-14.

Audio clips of the work can be found on http://www.amazon.com/Peacemakers-Deluxe-Karl-Jenkins/dp/B0069R2308/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1339687612&sr=8-1&keywords=peacemakers+jenkins

More information about the Chorale can be found on www.cmchorale.org

Interested choirs can contact director Tina Johns Heidrich at info@cmchorale.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

ARE YOU AN AVAILABLE SUBSTITUTE?

Our substitute dates/events are sent by e-mail (time sensitive) and include as much information as the institution/individual shares with us. Available subs should contact the institution/individual posting a date, DIRECTLY, to work out details. You must be a CURRENT primary (regular)/dual member of AGO to receive information about these opportunities. If you wish to receive e-mail posts about substitute jobs/dates, please send your name/e-mail address to Placement Coordinator Jayson Rodovsky-Engquist:

DO YOU NEED A SUBSTITUTE?

We will include names of our substitutes (and update on a regular basis) on our website, www.agowestchester.org. If you are in need of a sub, you have two options:

- 1) call someone directly using the directory to find contact information
- 2) send the filled out intake form to Jayson. This will be e-mailed to the entire sub list.

SUBSTITUTE INTAKE FORMS

Should you require a substitute (vacation, study leave, illness, etc.), please use the SUBSTITUTE INTAKE FORM (found on our website at: www.agowestchester.org) and fill in as much information as you can. Your date(s) will be e-mailed to our entire sub list. Available subs will be in touch, directly, to work out details.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A SUBSTITUTE?

Should you hear of an institution needing a sub (and/or permanent organist), please share this with Jayson. You may send the INTAKE FORM (available on our website) or request Jayson be in touch to find out the information.

Jayson Rodovsky-Engquist

THANK YOU!

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 chronologically by 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:

[Alice](#) Avouris (MS Word is preferred)

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

Thank you!

Alice Avouris
Lois Simmonds
The Trompette Editors

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

Inside:

**Kevin Walsh and Judy Abel take on the
National Convention, ideas for next year's
programs, new job postings, sub info; ...and
much more!**

Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

The Trompette

Alice Avouris &

Lois Simmonds, Editors