

# The Trompette



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

JANUARY 2014

VOLUME 12, #5

**Greetings from the Dean** ..... Dear Colleagues,

As I write this, there's a Stan Rodgers song playing in the background. It's got a great chorus, which I think most of us can relate to:

At last I'm ready for Christmas, I've even finished the tree;  
At last I'm ready for Christmas, like I thought I'd never be!  
With my feet propped up by a good hot fire and a matching inside glow;  
At last I'm ready for Christmas, with nearly two hours to go!

Of course, we don't prop our feet till after our Christmas services are ended...and we kick up our heels at the Chapter's annual Twelfth Night Party. Details are elsewhere in this issue, but (God bless you, Helen Darling) this will be a wonderful gathering. I hope to see you there.

Of course, not everyone celebrates Christmas. We do appreciate our members with different beliefs, and I've gotten some nice comments from non-Christian members who appreciate this sensitivity. However, today I'm thinking of some Christians who don't celebrate Christmas...or who can't celebrate it easily. The Friday before Christmas, I headed down to Philly for the wake of a 66-year old character I knew from 20 years of Irish Caribbean cruises and festivals. The next day, one of my college classmates lost his battle with melanoma. (I remember playing his wedding at the Manhattan College chapel; it actually started on time.) I doubt these families will be belting out Joy to the World—not this year—but they will be in church, and they need the most beautiful music we can give them.

I don't think this is unique to Christmas. It happens every week, and not always for sad reasons. Many years ago, a tenor in my choir came to Palm Sunday Mass straight from the hospital where his wife delivered their first child. The reading of the Passion of Our Lord was the furthest thing from his mind that morning, but he needed to be in church, thanking God for the gift of his daughter. He needed to make the most beautiful music he could, and he did.

I'm thinking also of a colleague who's retiring; Christmas Eve will be her last service in a church she served faithfully for many years. (The current minister is not a fan of traditional music; they may not even use the organ after she retires.) She needs to make the most beautiful music she can (and she will).

We do not always know who comes to church or temple with sorrows or joys that don't fit neatly into the "official" celebration of the day, but I think we know who needs the most beautiful music we can give, and that's everyone: our clergy, our choir members, our congregations, and ourselves. May this New Year 2014 be our best yet!

*Kevin Walsh*

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# Westchester AGO 2013-2014 Program Schedule

**Sunday, January 5, 2014, at 4:00 p.m.**  
***Twelfth Night Party at the Home of Helen Darling,***

Main dish will be provided. Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert. There won't be oven room, so please bring food ready to serve and eat!  
Please RSVP to Joyce Gardner if you plan to attend.

**Sunday, February 9, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”** at Reformed Church of Cortlandtown.  
*Bring your favorite spirituals (organ or choir).*  
Contact Alice Avouris

**Sunday, March 30 at 4:30 p.m.**  
***Sight singing workshop with Liz Fleischer***  
at Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns

**April:** No meeting. Easter is April 20.

**May tbd.** Organ crawl in Pelham/New Rochelle.

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## Concert Calendar

### ***Second Sundays at the Osborn***

101 Theall Rd. Rye, N.Y. 10580  
(800) 252-4793; [www.theosborn.org](http://www.theosborn.org)

***Kathryn Jones***  
January 12, 2:00 p.m.

***Kyoko Tagami Meredith***  
February 9, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

***Patricia Murphy***  
***Virginia McGrane***  
Soprano Duet  
March 9th 2014, 2:00 p.m.

***Noriko Yamada*** coordinates the organists at the Osborn Retirement Home for their monthly organ recital series. Please contact her at [NYamada4@Gmail.com](mailto:NYamada4@Gmail.com) or 914-921-1648.

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**WSNY Grant Winner**

**John Dominick III**

singing at the Dimenna Center, NYC

**Saturday, January 4, 3:00 p.m.**

*Sponsored by The Wagner Society of New York*

[jdsingslow@aol.com](mailto:jdsingslow@aol.com)

***Hello All,***

*I hope that this holiday season will be a wonderful, joyous, and blessed one for you and your loved ones. To those who do not know me, I'm **John Dominick III**. I am music director at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in White Plains. Some of you may not know but, I'm also a **professional opera singer**. The reason for my message is to let you know of an upcoming recital that I will be doing on **January 4th at 3pm at the Dimenna Center in NYC**. This recital is being sponsored by **The Wagner Society of New York** (information should also be on their website). Every year the WSNY chose two of their grant winners ( I was a grant winner two years in a row 2010 & 2011) to do a recital. This year I was chosen along with Mezzo Soprano Sarah Heltzel, who just did a Ring at Seattle. To all who are interested in attending, please feel free to drop me an email to let me know that you're interested at [jdsingslow@aol.com](mailto:jdsingslow@aol.com). It should be a wonderful evening with a reception to follow. Hope you can attend.*

*Best,*

*John Dominick III*

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**Northern Westchester Flutes**

*in a free Concert at the*

**Tarrytown Library**

**Saturday, January 11, 2:30 p.m.**

Playing works of Bizet, D'Rivera, Grainger, Handel, Schubert, and others

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**St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Eastchester**

is proud to announce the presentation of its Music Director,

**Susan LaFever**

in recital on Saturday, January 18, 2014 at 3pm.

Joining Susan on horn will be Ron Levy, pianist and Reinee Sheffield, soprano.

The program will include Schubert's *Auf dem Strom*, Lydia Busler-Blais' *Frost Cycle* with text by Robert Frost and Adrienne Albert's *Global Warming*.

A surprise keyboard postlude by a local composer will be presented and a reception will follow with the opportunity to meet composer Adrienne Albert, a native of Los Angeles. Complete information may be found at [www.susanlafever.com](http://www.susanlafever.com)

# Reads & Mixtures

## “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Hi Everyone!

I am so looking forward to our sharing our favorite African-American inspired music, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 4:00 p.m! At the Reformed Church of Cortlandtown, we have plenty of copies of the African-American Heritage Hymnal, which is literally packed with wonderful music for choirs and congregations for all months of the year, not just February!! If you would like to participate, please contact me with your selection or selections – the more, the better! - from your own collection of hymnals and music workshops, web-site browsing and music-store-bin raiding, etc. (I just wish it were as easy as it used to be to physically rummage through a real music store file cabinet full of new music!) We have a beautiful, new piano in our sanctuary, donated to us by Janine Wallour-Thwaite and St. Peter’s Episcopal, Peekskill, and I and our congregation will never get over the fact of this beautiful gift! It makes our hosting this upcoming meeting even more a matter of great joy.

Organ works in the spirit of Spirituals can be heard from the balcony on our Ahlborn-Galanti electric organ. In our worship services I generally move from upstairs to downstairs several times during the service – it keeps me in shape! But attendees can remain seated in the sanctuary and hear the program quite well without changing seats.

Please let me know by e-mail, phone or in person at our 12<sup>th</sup> Night Celebration what you would like to bring, and have a great New Year!

Alice Avouris

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**KASP Records** ([www.kasprecords.com](http://www.kasprecords.com)), the record company of **Donald Isler**, has just released a new 2 CD album featuring a live Beethoven sonata recital performed by the great Australian pianist, **Bruce Hungerford** (1922-1977). In the midst of recording the 32 sonatas of Beethoven, Hungerford was killed in a tragic auto accident just as he was becoming widely recognized as one of the foremost Beethoven interpreters of his time. This album includes five of the sonatas (including the great Sonata No. 32, Op. 111) as well encores by Bach and Beethoven (Für Elise).

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### For Sale: Practice/Chapel organ

Rodgers Model 205, ideal for small chapel or practice organ. Oak case, 2 ranks of pipework (Gedackt and Principal, TC, 49 notes each), measures 108” wide x 91 ½” high x 53” deep with pedalboard, fits under an 8’ ceiling. Totally self-contained, additional speakers and amplification may be added. Wooden reverse color keyboards granadilla naturals and rosewood sharps, some customization. Basic Baroque specification with additional electronic stops including 2 celestes. Original owner. Excellent condition, able to be seen and playing in owner’s residence in Patchogue, LI. Asking price: \$14,000. Contact Rick Tripodi 203-629-1601.

## Long Island AGO Mini-Convention

Monday, January 20, 2014

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception

440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY

Co-sponsored by the Nassau, Queens, and Suffolk Chapters

*With workshops, catered lunch, and a masterclass and recital presented by the internationally-acclaimed Renee Anne Louprette. All this takes place conveniently on the holiday Monday of January 20.*

**3:15 – 4:00 ORGAN RECITAL** (Widor and Vierne) Renée Anne Louprette

Ms. Louprette will be playing the beautiful and completely original 1930 E.M. Skinner organ of the main chapel. She will focus on works from Vierne’s “Pièces de Fantaisie” in her presentations. The Skinner organ will be the perfect vehicle for these as the compositions and instrument date from the very same time period, not to mention Vierne’s well-known admiration for Skinner’s consoles and inherent tone colors.

**2:30 – 3:15 Master Class:** Louis Vierne’s 24 Pièces de Fantaisie with Renée Anne Louprette

**1:15- 2:15 Vocal Technique for Improving OR The Genius of Cavaillé-Coll,**

the Aging Voice With Chris Cusumano with Sarah Hoover

**12:30 – 1:15 CATERED LUNCH** ( Dining Hall)

**12:00 - 12:30** Tour of the Seminary: The Chapels, Art, and Architecture

**11:00 - 12:00** Finale for Beginners OR Tournemire’s “Accessible” with Paul Eschenauer

L’Orgue Mystique with Ray Henderson

**10:30 - 10:45** Welcome/Gathering Hymn (Main Chapel)

**10:00 - 10:30** Registration & Coffee (Main Lobby/Dining Hall)

Your Registration Fee includes: workshops, tour, master class and organ recital; Morning coffee; Catered lunch; not to mention an opportunity to learn something new and beat the mid-winter doldrums by visiting with friends and colleagues!

After January 14 deadline, please register at the door for an additional \$ 10.00

Registration Fee (if rec’d 1/14): Queens, Nassau, Suffolk AGO member \$ 35; All others \$ 45.

Please mail a check payable to Suffolk Chapter, AGO, along with this completed form to:

Claire Klein, Suffolk AGO; Five Oakwood Drive; Huntington, NY 11743-9748.

### Registration Form (due 1/14)

Last name First

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Mailing Address

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City State ZIP

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Phone (include area code) Email

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Primary Chapter (if no chapter, please state other affiliation if any—ACDA, PAM, NPM etc.)

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# Empty Benches

**If you know of an open bench in your area**, please have the institution's official representative (congregation's president, rabbi, cantor, priest, minister, etc.) be in touch with our acting placement director. We'd like to share news of open positions with our chapter members. Please let us know if you hear of an available position. E-MAIL ADDRESS: [Placement@agowestchester.org](mailto:Placement@agowestchester.org) *Kevin Walsh, Dean and Acting Placement Director.*

## **Assistant Organist, St. Peter's Episcopal, Morristown, NJ (December, 2013)**

Job ID: 15484245; Entry Level: No; Job Type: Part-time; Job Duration: Indefinite  
Min Education: BA/BS/Undergraduate; Min Experience: 1-2 Years  
Location(s): Morristown, New Jersey, 07960; Posted: November 4, 2013  
Required Travel: 0-10%; Salary: \$15,000.00 - \$17,000.00 (Yearly Salary)  
Salary Negotiable: No; Number of Weekly Services: 2; Number of Weekly Rehearsals: 2  
Ensembles: Adult Choir, Choir of Boys, Choir of Girls; Hours per Week: 8 - 15  
Organ Description: 1930 IV/ 64 E.M. Skinner; Benefits: Vacation

### **APPLY FOR THIS JOB**

Contact Person: Joshua Stafford Email Address: [jstafford@stpetersmorristown.org](mailto:jstafford@stpetersmorristown.org) Evening  
Phone: 716-485-6585 Web Site: [www.stpetersmorristown.org](http://www.stpetersmorristown.org)  
Street Address: 70 Maple Ave Daytime Phone: 973-538-0555 Ext. 18 Fax: 973-538-7790  
Congregation Size: 400 - 500

**Job Description:** St. Peter's Church, located a short train ride from New York City in Morristown, NJ, is actively seeking a part-time organist to assist with the music department. The church boasts a long tradition of musical excellence, including a boys' choir which has been in existence for 125 years. The present make up of choirs includes a semi-professional adult choir which sings at the 11:15 service (Eucharist or Morning Prayer) as well as boys' and girls' choirs which generally sing at the 9am Eucharist. Choral repertoire and hymnody are largely from the Anglican tradition. The church houses an historic 1930 E.M. Skinner organ (IV/64) which remains unaltered from its original state.

The Assistant Organist would primarily be responsible for accompanying the choirs at two Sunday services, as well as at Thursday rehearsals. The Assistant would also share service playing responsibilities with the Director of Music (hymns, voluntaries, etc.). Some special events during the year would include major Feasts, Evensong, and choral concerts. Some administrative work would be required.

**Job Requirements:** The successful candidate would be skilled in the following:

- Anthem Accompaniment
- Psalm Accompaniment (Anglican Chant)
- Hymn Playing
- Sight-reading
- Transposition
- Organ Literature
- Improvisation

Please submit resumes or inquiries to Joshua Stafford, Director of Music ([jstafford@stptersmorristown.org](mailto:jstafford@stptersmorristown.org)).

Interviews will begin immediately, and the application process will remain open until a successful candidate has been hired.

**Organist/Director of Music, St. Peter's Episcopal, Bronx, NY (November, 2013)**

Job ID: 15320912; Entry Level: No; Job Type: Part-time; Job Duration: Indefinite  
Min Education: BA/BS/Undergraduate; Min Experience: 3-5 Years  
Location(s): Bronx, New York, 10461, United States; Posted: October 22, 2013  
Required Travel: 0-10%; Salary: \$12,000.00 - \$15,000.00 (Yearly Salary)  
Salary Negotiable: Yes; Number of Weekly Services: 1; Number of Weekly Rehearsals: 1  
Ensembles: Adult Choir; Hours per Week: 8 – 15; Organ: 3-manual 46 rank 1947 Austin

**Job Description:** St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Westchester Square), Bronx, NY seeks a part-time Organist/Director of Music.

St. Peter's, the oldest Episcopal parish in New York, has a stunningly restored 19th c. Victorian Gothic worship space with a recently refurbished 1947 3-manual Austin organ with 46 ranks of pipes. Salary: \$12000 to \$15000 annually for 10 hours per week (more hours during Holy Week and Christmas; considerably less time during the summer). Four weeks paid vacation (dates to be agreed upon between the Organist/Director of Music and Rector). The use of the facilities is available for private teaching. Please send resume and letter of interest to [music@stpetersbronx.com](mailto:music@stpetersbronx.com). Position available immediately.

**Job Requirements:** Responsibilities include directing and developing the Adult Choir, playing the organ for all liturgical occasions (including, but not limited to Sunday morning 10 AM Mass, Christmas Eve and Holy Week services). Weddings and Funerals extra. The Organist/Director of Music will meet regularly with the Rector.

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**Music Director, United Methodist Church of Danbury (November 2013)**

Job ID: 15123741; Position Title: Music director; Job Function: Music Director; Entry Level: No; Job Type: Part-time; Job Duration: Indefinite; Min Education: BA/BS/Undergraduate; Min Experience: 3-5 Years; Posted: October 2, 2013; Salary: \$15,000.00 - \$17,500.00 (Yearly Salary); Salary Negotiable: No

Number of Weekly Services: 1; Number of Weekly Rehearsals: 1; Ensembles: Adult Choir  
Number Supervised: 5 or more; Hours per Week: 8 – 15; Benefits: Book/Music Allowance

**Contact Person:** SPR chair - Music director search Email Address: [cpierce99@comcast.net](mailto:cpierce99@comcast.net)  
Web Site: [www.danburymethodist.org](http://www.danburymethodist.org); Street Address: 5 clapboard ridge road Fax: 203 743 3461  
Congregation Size: 200 - 300

**Job Description:** The Danbury (Connecticut) United Methodist church seeks 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 new 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 for this position is in the mid-teens depending on experience. Prefer a candidate who lives 25 miles or less from Danbury. In interested, please email cover letter and resume, or fax to 203-743-3461. Resumes can be mailed to: SPR Chair, Music Director Search, The United Methodist Church of Danbury, 5 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury, CT 06811. The deadline for receiving resumes is November 1. If you would like more information about our church, please visit our website at [www.danburymethodist.org](http://www.danburymethodist.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.**

## 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 Immonds](#)

Please send us your material by the **20<sup>th</sup> of each month** to ensure that we will be able to deliver the Newsletter to the membership on or about the 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.agowestchester.org).

Thank you!

Alice Avouris  
Lois Simmonds  
*The Trompette* Editors



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

*Inside:*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!** Check out words of  
inspiration from the Dean, **the Concert  
Calendar**, sign up to share music February 9<sup>th</sup>,  
*read about the Long Island Mini-Convention*, and  
more!

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Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

*The Trompette*

Alice Avouris, Editor