

The Trompette



The Newsletter of the Westchester Chapter - American Guild of Organists

MAY 2014

VOLUME 12, #9

Greetings from the Dean.... Dear Colleagues,

This is the day of resurrection! No, I'm not writing this on Easter Sunday, but three days after, when I've recovered from a hectic and wonderful Holy Week and Easter. I'm sure many of you feel the same way—we give so much of ourselves to our music for these high holy days that we need a little time to recover. There's a reason most church choirs don't rehearse the week after Easter!

I'm really looking forward to our next meeting on May 18 at Huguenot Church in Pelham at 4:00 PM. Organist/composer David Hurd will present a workshop on his hymn tune improvisations. This is a chance to discover some very practical music, and to learn something about the art of improvisation. I hope many of you will be able to join us. I know May meetings are tough (we have to avoid Mother's Day and Memorial Day), and some of you have family weddings and graduations, but if you can make this one, I think it will be a good investment of your time, as well as being a good time. As always, please feel free to invite colleagues who don't belong to the AGO—let them see what we have to offer them.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find your ballot for the annual election; please fill it out and return to our Secretary, Karen Longwell. We didn't receive any additional nominations, which I consider an endorsement of the Nominating Committee's work, but we still need your ballots.

I've had some interesting discussions with some of our members (and non-members) involving questionable treatment of church musicians. One question that came up is how do we avoid getting into situations where we are helping a church give a colleague a raw deal. I think Rule 2 of the AGO's Code of Ethics is quite helpful here: "Members shall not seek or appear to be seeking employment for themselves, a student or a colleague, in a position held by someone else. Members shall apply for employment only for a position which the employer, with the knowledge of the incumbent musician, has officially and publicly declared vacant by announcement of the vacancy." If you are approached about a job that you haven't seen advertised, ask if the current musician is aware that the church is interviewing. If the answer is "no," you should probably run the other way. If they're not treating their current musician professionally, why should the next one expect to be treated differently?

Fortunately, most of my conversations with our members are much more positive. Several of you told me how much you enjoyed Liz Fleischer's presentation on sight singing in March, and I think I'm going to hear more nice things about David Hurd's presentation on May 18. I hope you'll be there to prove me right!

**WESTCHESTER AGO
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Westchester AGO 2013-2014 Program Schedule

Sunday, May 18, 4:00 p.m.: DAVID HURD WORKSHOP
Huguenot Memorial Church, 901 Pelhamdale Ave, Pelham, NY 10803

Concert Calendar

Second Sundays at the Osborn

101 Theall Rd. Rye, N.Y. 10580
(800) 252-4793; www.theosborn.org

Frank Miller

May 25, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

Judith Abel

June 8, 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 or 914-921-1648.

The NEW CHORAL SOCIETY

under the direction of Dr. John T. King,

presents

Verdi's *REQUIEM*

Saturday, May 3, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Hitchcock Presbyterian Church
6 Greenacres Ave, Scarsdale, NY 10583

Dr. John T. King conducts the New Choral Society, Westchester's award-winning chorus, in two performances of Giuseppe Verdi's *Requiem*, Saturday, May 3 at 8 PM and Sunday, May 4 at 4 PM. Both performances will take place in the sanctuary at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, which is known for its outstanding acoustics, as well as its intimate feel as a concert space.

A solo quartet of Metropolitan Opera luminaries includes: Jennifer Check, soprano, Margaret Lattimore, mezzo-soprano, Eric Barry, tenor and Brian Kontes, bass. An orchestra comprised of some of the tri-state areas most talented instrumentalists rounds out the musical experience.

The all-auditioned, 48-member chorus celebrates its 20th Anniversary season this year. The chorus was honored by ArtsWestchester when it was awarded the 2014 Arts Award for an Organization.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.newchoralsociety.org/tickets or by calling the box office at 914-725-1678. Ticket prices are: \$25 – Preferred Seating; \$20 – General Admission; \$15 – Seniors/Students (General Admission seats only). A limited number of tickets may be available at the door 30 minutes prior to each performance. Please call the box office on the day of the concert to confirm that tickets are available.

ELECTION INFORMATION AND BALLOT

2014 Ballot – AGO Westchester Chapter

- For Dean: John King
- For Sub-Dean: Lana Kollath
- For Secretary: Karen Longwell
- For Treasurer/
Registrar: Kevin Walsh

For Directors: (Vote for two)

- Margaret Kim
- Frank Miller

Directions:

- Only paid voting members of the Westchester County Chapter are eligible to vote. Chapter Friends are not eligible to vote.
- Vote for one for Dean, Sub-Dean, Secretary, and Treasurer/Registrar by placing an X in the box.
- Vote for two Directors.
- Do not sign the ballot
- Place the ballot (unsigned) into an envelope.
- Mail the ballot to: Karen Longwell
4 McDougal Ln.
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567-7437
- Return address should include your name and - “ Ballot for Westchester AGO Election”
- Sign your name across the envelope seal.
- Be sure to mail it in time to reach Karen Longwell by **May 17, 2014.**

Reads & Mixtures

It's time to be inspired!

The **AGO's National Convention** will be in Boston, Monday June 23 through Friday, June 27. Details are at www.agoboston2014.org, as well as recent issues of *The American Organist*. This should be a wonderful week of concerts, workshops, masterclasses and conviviality. Boston is an easy drive, so you can save the expensive plane tickets associated with travel to more distant locations. Still, we know it costs money for the registration and (unless you have friends in the Boston area) the hotel. You might ask your church to pay some or all of the cost (continuing education is as important for musicians as it is for the clergy). Even if it's too late for this year, you might get money for next year's regional convention in New Haven. It's worth asking!

Kevin Walsh, Dean

Can you help us?

We could really use someone to serve the chapter as Placement Director. It involves keeping the sub list current, notifying subs of requests we get from churches or organists, as well as notifying the newsletter editor of permanent positions that become available. We learn about most of those by e-mail, but sometimes we find out about them from the AGO's national site, or from ChoralNet. You must have internet access (you can access placement@agowestchester.org from the internet, or you access it using Outlook or some other e-mail program). If you think this is a way you'd like to serve, send Kevin Walsh an e-mail.

Letter from a former member:

Although the Westchester Chapter is quite a distance from the Mohawk Valley, there are two reasons why think the following might be of interest to some in your chapter. First, I was the youngest member of the Westchester Chapter when it was formed in 1951 at which time I would have been 12 years old and taken to the initial meeting by my father . . . Second, my dad was Robert S. Rowland, pipe organ builder, who lived in Ossining and has a number of organs there in Westchester County. Edna Schloten knew my father and I as well as several others still in your chapter. I always look forward to meeting Westchester Chapter folks at conventions!

I am concert coordinator for the summer programs at the Old Palatine Church on Rt. 5, just East of St. Johnsville, NY, in the Mohawk Valley, where my father built his last pipe organ at his age 80. It is a wonderful instrument replicating the early organs of David Tannenberg and a perfect instrument in this pre-Revolutionary War Church organized in 1749 and built in 1770. I am privileged to announce that our opening summer concert at that historic site this year will be on Sunday, June 8, at 4:00 p.m. with Dr. John Weaver and his wife Marianne in a concert of organ and flute. You may have some chapter members who aren't able to attend the big AGO conventions . . . and this will be a grand opportunity for them to hear a world-class organist! We suggest that they arrive early to assure good seating in our small space. At the conclusion of the recital they will want to greet the Weavers personally.

We are also inviting AGO Chapters as well as individuals to consider being partners/sponsors of this recital and in turn will be listed on the program. If the Westchester County Chapter would like to be counted among the special sponsors, please make out a check to THE PALATINE SOCIETY and send it directly to me as concert coordinator as soon as possible, so we can include you in the program:

Roberta Rowland-Raybold
612 Twinflower St.
Little River, SC 29566

The Palatine Society is a 501C3 organization for those to whom this may be important. As a former AGO dean and District Convener in New York State, I have moved south to avoid terrible winters! BUT.....I am excited to spending summers back in New York and this year - to present Dr. Weaver as our recitalist for our opening event of the summer in this historic setting. I hope to see some of you there.

Sincerely,
Roberta Rowland-Raybold, c.a.g.o.

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 Kevin Walsh, Dean and Acting Placement Director.

MUSIC DIRECTOR POSITION, Pleasantville, NY (4, 2014)

St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville, NY 10570

St. John's is in search of a new Music Director for two diverse Worship Services each Sunday. The first is a contemporary Family Service, the second a more traditional Episcopal Service. Please see our web-site for a complete job description: stjohnspleasantville.org. You may send your resume to The Rev Mary B. Gregorius at mothermarystjohns@gmail.com

St. John's Episcopal Church is in search of a dynamic, imaginative and resourceful Music Director who will strive to inspire the musical life of the Parish. The successful candidate will possess a genuine desire to teach with kindness, lead with confidence and inspire the church community. The Music Director will be charged with creating from the ground up a fully graded music program.

Our Family Worship Service requires someone with a sincere aspiration to embrace and cultivate the young student instrumentalists and singers in our Parish community. Must possess electronic keyboard skills and have an ability to work in a diverse mix of Sacred Music. The successful candidate will be comfortable scoring music for the available instrumentation and will develop a children's choir. All music in this service will be accessible to young children and their parents. Our Music Director will also help to prepare pageant presentations at Christmas and Easter.

The Rite II Service will incorporate St. John's two (2) manual, Flentrop tracker organ, built in 1976. The candidate will build a choir capable of leading congregational singing and offering anthems appropriate to the season. While more traditional in its structure, music for this Service must be

energetic, engaging and occasionally incorporate student musicians with an overall goal of heightening the Worship experience of the diverse generations.

The Parish Music Director will work collaboratively with and under the direction of the Rector of St. John's incorporating all the responsibilities of a Minister of Music in the Episcopal Church. As such, our Music Director will need to have some training, or a willingness to be trained, in Scripture, liturgy, the Church Seasons and her/his pastoral responsibilities for those entrusted to their care. The successful candidate will be required to attend Diocesan required workshops on Safe Guarding our Children; Anti-Racism and Anti-Sexual Harassment.

Position Requirements:

BA in Music or Certification from the American Guild of Organists

Demonstrated ability with organ, electronic keyboard and piano

Flexibility within various musical genres; classically Anglican, children's, folk/rock, gospel.

Ability to score for various instruments as needed, including guitar chords

Ability to create choirs for both children and adults

Other Information: Compensation at AGO recommended standards. Expectation for this position is 10 hours per week. Four Sundays off per annum; at least 2 in July/August. Please note; the Music Director must be available throughout Advent, Christmas Eve and Day, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Please submit your resume to the Rev Mary B. Gregorius at mothermarystjohns@gmail.com or by mailing to St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville, NY 10570

Cantor/organ accompanist White Plains (4/14)

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in White Plains is engaged in a search for a musician(s) to lead singing and provide organ accompaniment for the congregation's singing at any or all three week-end Masses: 5:30 PM Saturday and 9:00 AM and 11:45 AM on Sunday. Experience with Catholic liturgy preferred. Interested applicants are asked to contact Father Ralph at the Parish office: (914) 948-5909.

P/T Director of Music Ministry, Christ Episcopal and San Marcos, Tarrytown (3/14)

Posted: January 27, 2014

www.ChristChurchTNY.org. Salary: \$17,000.00 - \$18,000.00 (yearly salary); negotiable. Duration: indefinite. Hours per week: 8-15. Weekly services: 1; weekly rehearsals: 2

Ensembles: Adult Choir, Children's Choir. Congregation:; 100-200

Contact: The Rev. Susan Copley, 43 South Broadway, Tarrytown, NY 10591.

phone: 914 631-2074. fax: 914 366-6134 revsusancopley@gmail.com

Job Description : Christ Episcopal Church & San Marcos is a diverse, inclusive, growing parish and we seek a part-time Director of Music Ministry. We desire that the music at Christ Church reflect our Episcopal liturgy as well as the diversity, liveliness and energy of our parish family. We celebrate music that reflects a broad range of musical styles from traditional hymns, to ancient chant, to contemporary music, Gospel, jazz and more. We seek someone who will direct our adult choir, nurture our beginning children's choir and who has skill to lead intergenerational music while making the 'sound of the congregation singing' our highest shared goal. We seek someone who is able to accompany the choirs and the congregation on organ and piano.

Job Requirements: Trained musician: Serve as organist/pianist on Sunday Mornings. Be available to play Christmas Eve as well as Holy Week Services. Choral directing skill- especially for adult choir. Desire to engage whole congregation in music.

Will welcome vocalists and variety of instruments to participate in music ministry.

Plan music selections for worship reflecting Episcopal liturgy.

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 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
The Trompette Editor

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

Inside:

**A word from the Dean, Election Ballot (please send in!),
David Hurd May 16th, Job Listings, and more!**

Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
The Trompette
Alice Avouris, Editor