

# Mixtures

The Organ of the Binghamton Chapter, AGO



FEBRUARY 2011

## DEAN'S MESSAGE

At our January event this Friday evening, you will hear the fascinating story of the largest pipe organ in the world. The time is 7 p.m. and the place is Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, 314 East Main St., Endicott. Parking is available in the Coleman & Daniels lot (*between the adjacent apartment building and the computer store*) or on Mersereu Avenue. The documentary is accompanied throughout by musical selections, ranging from classical compositions to Broadway tunes--all played on the 449-rank organ at the Atlantic City Convention Hall. Refreshments and "pipe-organ trivia" will follow the DVD. The church doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for those who wish to play the 5-rank Buhl organ beforehand.

On February 25 at 7 p.m., chapter members and friends will join residents at Hilltop Retirement Home for a sing-along. Joan Kellam, chairperson for the event, is putting together a fine program that will include musical offerings by Leigh Harding, Jean Henssler, Lee Roseboom, and Faith Brown. In keeping with another tradition, those who do not have to leave for home after the program will gather at Friendly's for ice cream and camaraderie.

The Binghamton AGO Chapter has reserved five tables at the Cider Mill Playhouse for the performance of *Bach at Leipzig* on Saturday, March 26 at 4 p.m. For a group of 10, the ticket price is \$20 -- for a group of 20 the price is \$15. Mark this date on your calendar and call Polly (754-0478) with your reservation by March 10. In order to meet and discuss the show afterwards, we will make dinner reservations at a nearby restaurant.

Jonathan Biggers will be giving another all-Bach concert on February 17 at 8 p.m. (FA 21, BU) and will be happy to see many of us there. Please show your support by attending. It goes without saying that you will be treated to a fine performance!

Friends and kin who are not chapter members are always welcome at our events. Invite them to come along!

Co-deans

Lee Roseboom & Polly Wendling

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### CO-DEANS

Lee Roseboom 797-7947  
Polly Wendling 754-0378

### NEWSLETTER

Polly Wendling,  
pro tem 754-0378

### PLACEMENT

Jean Henssler  
748-7285

### WEBSITE

Richard Hedgebeth  
[www.binghamtonago.org](http://www.binghamtonago.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, **Jan. 28** – 7 pm DVD of the Atlantic City Convention Hall Organ, Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, 312 E. Main St., Endicott

Saturday, **Feb. 5** - 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting at Dunkin Donuts, Johnson City

Thursday, **Feb. 17**, 8 pm - Jonathan Biggers: Bach Celebration Series, Fine Arts 21 \$\$

Friday, **Feb. 25** – Sing-along at Hilltop Retirement Home

Sunday, **March 20** – 4 pm *Choral Journeys* sung by the Madrigal Choir of Binghamton under the direction of Bruce Borton, a candidate for Artistic Director. First Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango Street, Binghamton

Saturday, **Mar. 26** – 4 pm Cider Mill Playhouse performance of *Bach at Leipzig*. Discussion afterwards at a local eatery. More details TBA.

Sunday, **April 3** – 4 pm Organist Jonathan Biggers continues the Bach Celebration Series, FA 21

### BEGIN NOW!!

Start practicing that special piece you plan to play in the Members Recital on June 12. The stop list for the Wicks organ at First Congregational in Greene, NY is included in this newsletter on p 4. Please contact Ellie Rugg with information about the piece you will be playing (692-3204 or jrugg001\_at\_stny.rr.com) and Claudia Kachmarik to arrange practice time at the organ (242-1338 or ckach14\_at\_stny.rr.com).

Claudia and Steve Kachmarik will host our annual dinner/meeting at the 1810 Juliand House just a few minutes from the church.



**JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT** – Experience the sights, sounds, and stories of the world’s largest pipe organ on **Friday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.** The restoration of the 449-rank, 33,000-pipe organ in the Atlantic City Convention Hall is documented in a DVD, which includes over 15 classical and Broadway tunes. Refreshments will follow. The venue for this event is Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, 312 Main Street, Endicott. Parking is available in Coleman & Daniels lot between the apartment building and computer store or on Mersereu Avenue. **BRING A FRIEND!!**



**FEBRUARY CHAPTER EVENT** – Joan Kellam is coordinating a sing-along at Hilltop Retirement Home on Friday, **Feb. 25 at 7 pm.** AGO members are encouraged to attend and add their voices to those of the residents. As we have in the past, we will meet afterwards at Friendly’s for ice cream and conviviality.



**MARCH CHAPTER EVENT** – Enjoy the conniving of 4 competitors for the coveted position of organist at St. Thomaskirche after it was vacated by Johann Kuhnau. After attending *Bach at Leipzig* at the Cider Mill Playhouse on Saturday, **March 26 at 4 pm**, we will dine together at a nearby restaurant. Tickets are \$20 for a group of 10; \$15 for a group of 20. Reservations to Polly Wendling (754-0378) by March 10.



**RECALLING THE PAST . . . . a continuation of Esther’s experiences at the 1972 Midwinter Conclave in Phoenix, Arizona.** Gordon MacMillan was in charge of things. At the banquet he told of an incident when he was a student at the University of the Redlands. The organ instructor was notorious for putting personal messages on an outdoor bulletin board for everyone to see. At that time we got *The Diapason* as part of our AGO membership. One year, one of the student members didn’t pay his dues, so the instructor put up a notice on the outdoor bulletin board. “\_\_\_, please pay your dues.” Nothing happened. A few weeks later she put up another one. “\_\_\_, you still haven’t paid your dues. Please get them in.” Again nothing happened. Finally she posted one that got quite a reaction from the non-organists who had no idea what Diapason meant. It said, “\_\_\_, if you do not pay your dues, I am going to cut off your Diapason.”

Mildred Andrews, who was teaching at the University of Oklahoma at that time, gave one of the workshops. She told how she got an idea from a football coach who studied what went wrong with a play by running the tape of it backwards. She suggested that if we were having trouble playing a certain spot, to try playing it backwards. I have tried it and it works.

*from the Memoirs of Esther Wilcox*

## *Our Services*

**New Organs  
Relocations  
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Restorations  
Tonal Changes  
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**Stuart Organ Company  
44 Saint John Avenue  
Binghamton, New York 13905  
607 237-0125  
Www.stuartorgan.com**

The Organ in St. Mary's Church, New Haven, is one of the great surviving treasures of 19th c. American organ building.

It was originally built for St. Alphonsus Church, New York City by the renowned Boston firm of E. & G. G. Hook and Hastings in 1871. Upon the closing of the church the organ was relocated to its present home. The relocation and restoration of the organ was funded as part of the restoration of the church as a centennial project of the Knights of Columbus, which was founded by an early pastor of the parish.

The Stuart Organ Company is pleased to have been a part of this process, having been chosen for completion of the project upon defaults by two other contractors.

Stoplist of the 3 manual, 55 rank organ and more information are available on our website.



**Saint Mary's Church, RC  
New Haven, Connecticut**

## **STOP LIST FOR WICKS ORGAN AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GREENE, NY**

<b>GREAT</b>	<b>SWELL</b>	<b>PEDAL</b>
8' Principal	8' Gemshorn	16' Bourdon
8' Bourdon	8' Gemshorn Celeste TC	16' Lieblich
8' Gemshorn	8' Gedeckt	8' Principal
4' Octave	4' Nachthorn	8' Bourdon
4' Flute	2' Octavin	4' Choral Bass
2' Flute	1 1/3' Quint	16' Contra Trompette
II Sesquialtera TC	8' Trompette	
III Mixture	Tremolo	
Chimes		



**THANK YOU** to **Janet Hammond** for handling reservations for our post-holiday get-together on Jan. 2. Sixteen members, our chaplain, and 2 non-member spouses celebrated the end of another Christmas season and the commencement of a new year at the Cortese Restaurant.



## *Announcements*

**More Options In Registration Process Coming Soon.** Has each member noticed and read the column From the Executive Director in the December '10, page 7 and January '11, page 7 issues of TAO? The first article was titled: *National Collection of Dues – The Time Has Come*. The second article was subtitled: *National Collection of Dues – Our Next Steps*. If not, take the time to read them now. James Thomashower has outlined some changes that will impact on the operations of each chapter.

Towards the goal that Thomashower has presented, our Chapter has been asked to submit names for a “Chapter Administrator” and “Mentor”. Our Chapter Board has accepted the services of Richard Sheasley as chapter administrator and Bruce Wendling as mentor to fill those positions. AGO National has been notified of the selections well in advance of the January 31, 2011 deadline.

I will try to keep all members aware of the upgrades to the Registration process as I learn of them. The details have not yet been sent to me.

As I think about these changes, I am reminded of a statement that I see whenever I order anything from a secure site on the Internet: “Remember, you can always contact by email or phone and mail your form and check”. Your Chapter will also honor that policy!

Richard Sheasley, Registrar

**Broome County Arts Council Newsletter** - It is very easy to get the BCAC Weekly Newsletter, which is literally packed with all that is happening in the local and area arts world. Individual members of Binghamton AGO Chapter can sign up to receive the newsletter of the BCAC by going to the Web Site [www.bcartscouncil.com](http://www.bcartscouncil.com) , clicking on **Get Our Newsletter**, and entering one's email address.

**Roommate Wanted** - Jean Hensler is planning to attend the AGO Regional Convention from July 3 – July 6 in Morristown, NJ, and is looking for both a roommate and someone with whom to carpool. Call Jean at (607) 748-7285 ... or [jhhmusik\\_at\\_aol.com](mailto:jhhmusik_at_aol.com)

**For Sale** - Conn Theaterette organ from the 1980's in good condition and a Knabe baby grand piano that needs reconditioning. Seller will consider reasonable offers. Contact 785-0306 or [asmk\\_at\\_stny.rr.com](mailto:asmk_at_stny.rr.com).