

Mixtures

The Organ of the Binghamton Chapter, AGO



SEPTEMBER 2013

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Our Chapter is about to begin a new year with several exciting events planned that should appeal to all our members. However, before anything else is said, we should all pause to thank Polly Wendling for her exemplary service as our dean. If "Dean for Life" was a position, Polly would have been unanimously endorsed for it. Reluctantly, but with unending gratitude to her, we had to accept her request to take her name off the ballot to continue as Dean. She is already missed and the year hasn't even started yet. We should also thank Bruce Wendling, who was the perfect partner to Polly in his support of her and her duties.

We also thank Reverend Joanne Lanfear, who has faithfully served as our Chaplin for the last two years. We welcome her replacement, Reverend Kimberly Chastain, the new Pastor of United Presbyterian Church in Binghamton.

Thanks also go to the Executive Board, which has been planning out the year's events. Check the calendar on our excellent website <http://binghamtonago.org/calendar.html> for all the events coming up. Thank you, Richard Hedgebeth, for keeping our calendar up to date.

There are three recitals this Fall that should each be excellent. Robert Parkins, Professor of Organ at Duke University, and a specialist in Iberian Baroque organ music, will give a workshop on that subject on Saturday, September 28, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 21 of the Fine Arts building (where the Wolff organ is located). Dr. Parkins recital at United Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Sept. 29 will include music from all periods. Our Chapter is a cosponsor of the event, and we will host a reception after the recital.

On Friday, November 15, Joseph Ripka will be the visiting guest artist sponsored solely by our Chapter. On Saturday morning Joseph will give a workshop, the subject of which is still being determined. Joseph is one of the rising superstars in organ performance. Check out his website (josephripka.com) and you will find some videos of his playing, particularly of him at Saint Sulpice with Daniel Roth turning pages and setting registration. He makes the most difficult pieces seem easy.

On Saturday, December 7, at 4:00 p.m., Jonathan Biggers will be giving his Holiday Organ Concert at United Presbyterian Church, joined by Timothy Perry, clarinet; Joseph Lathwell, oboe; and Stephen Stalker, cello. His holiday concerts have become a tradition and a legend and should not be missed. I appeal to our members to not only attend these recitals, but to bring a friend or two. Michael Barone once said "Whenever two or three are gathered together....it's an organ recital." Let's prove him wrong this year.

2013/2014 FALL KICKOFF
Friday, September 20, 6:00 PM
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
117 Main Street, Owego



Get acquainted with the church's newly rebuilt Delaware/Parsons organ
Welcome the new season with the fellowship of a potluck dinner
Demonstration of the organ by Jean Radice, St. Paul's organist
assisted by chapter member Patti O'Connell, horn
(More details on page 2)

Don't forget your shoes and music!



ON THE CALENDAR

Friday, **Sept. 20** – 6 pm (**note change in date**) - Kickoff at St. Paul's Episcopal, Owego
(4-6 pm - Open console)

Saturday, **Sept. 28** – 10 am Robert Parkins Workshop on Iberian Baroque Music at FA 21, BU
Dr. Parkins is Professor of Organ at Duke University and a specialist in Iberian Baroque organ music.

Saturday, **Sept. 28** – 4 pm Dedication of the organ rebuild at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Owego will include Choral Evensong and organ selections by organist, Jean Radice.

St. Paul's choir will be joined by the Binghamton Christ Church choir for the service. Reception to follow.

Sunday, **Sept. 29** – 4 pm – Organ recital by Robert Parkins at United Presbyterian Church, Binghamton; reception to follow; cosponsored by AGO and Binghamton U.

Saturday, **Oct. 19** – Chemung Valley AGO Chapter organ crawl to Jacksonville, Interlaken, and Erin (Details in next month's *Mixtures*)

Oct. 20 – 3 pm – Madrigal Choir Concert, *American Masters*, featuring America's most important composers of the last half century; United Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango St., Binghamton

Sunday, **Oct. 27** – 3 pm Paulette Fry and Diane Ames, duo organists, at United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cortland; 4 hands & 4 feet on 5 keyboards; 50-rank Wicks organ; video projection to front of church; Reception to follow. Handicap accessible.

Friday, **Nov. 15** – 7:30 pm Joseph Ripka organ recital at United Presbyterian

Saturday, **Nov. 16** - 10 am Workshop with Joseph Ripka at United Pres. (topic tba)

Saturday, **Nov. 30** – 7:30 pm Madrigal Choir *Lessons & Carols* at Holy Trinity, 346 Prospect St.

Sunday, **Dec. 1** – 3:00 pm “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “

Friday, **Dec. 6** – 7:30 pm (**note time correction**) Holiday Organ Concert by Jonathan Biggers, who will be joined by John Lathwell, oboe; Timothy Perry, clarinet; and Stephen Stalker, cello; at United Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango Street, Binghamton

Sunday, **Dec. 29** – 2 pm the Binghamton Theater Organ Society presents *The General* – one of Buster Keaton's greatest silent films; accompanied by Jim Ford

Sunday, **Dec. 29** – 5 pm Post Holiday get-together at the home of Bob and Judy Peterson

SUMMER FUN DAY



On August 8 twenty-five AGO members from three chapters visited four organs in the Wilkes Barre/Scranton area. Larry Hoey, who volunteered to co-ordinate the event, worked with Mark Laubach to plan the inspiring trip. Laubach performed pieces at each of the four venues, beginning with the impressive 4-manual, 89-rank Berghaus rebuild (Austin/Aeolian-Skinner) at St. Stephen's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral. We then proceeded to Scranton to visit the remaining three venues and to eat lunch at a wonderful little Italian Restaurant. John Holt describes the entire event in an article for TAO's Chapter News. Look for it in a future issue, as well as his photo of a happy group of "organ crawlers" who look forward to more joint ventures.



RECEPTION FOR COSPONSORED GUEST ORGANIST

Dr. Robert Parkins, professor of organ at Duke University, will be performing on Sunday, Sept. 29, 4 pm, at the United Presbyterian Church in Binghamton. This event is cosponsored by B.U. and the Binghamton AGO Chapter, with the AGO again providing for refreshments after the performance. In order to keep expenses at a minimum, we depend on member donations of baked goods and finger foods. In addition to attending Dr. Parkins recital, please bring something for the reception table. Thank you so much. Contact Polly Wendling, 754-0378 or go to the chapter website www.binghamtonago.org and click on Officers & Contacts.



A BIG THANK YOU to Patricia O'Connell, who will be taking over the position of newsletter editor next month. Patti, a lifelong resident of Owego, began studying organ 3 years ago when she retired from teaching Band at Vestal High School. She continues to play the French Horn in the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, Tri Cities Opera and Glimmerglass Opera orchestras. Articles for publication in *Mixtures* should be submitted to Patti by the 26th of each month.

Our Services

New Organs
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Tuning & Maintenance
Consulting



Stuart Organ Company
44 Saint John Avenue
Binghamton, New York 13905
607 237-0125
<http://www.stuartorgan.com>
Richard@stuartorgan.com

Specification

Great Organ		Swell Organ		Pedal Organ	
Bourdon	16	Stop Diapason	8	DBI Diapason	16
Open Diapason	8	Viola	8	Sub Bass	16
Spire Flute	8	Viola Celeste	8	Octave	8
Principal	4	Chimney Flute	4	Choral Bass	4
Fifteenth	2	Fifteenth	2	Mixture	V
Mixture	III	Sesquialtera	II	Trombone	16
Trumpet	8	Crescena	8		
		Tremulant			

The present instrument in Grace Church is an essentially new organ incorporating many recycled parts. Manual windchests, framing, and many key and stop action parts are from an organ built by J.G. Marklove, opus 131, 1883. Most pipework has been retained from the previous Grace Church organ by M.P. Mosler, opus 7997, 1949, with additional pipework by S.S. Hartmill, builders of Grace Church's first organ, J.H. & C.S. Odell, and Hook & Hastings, among others. The only new pipework in the organ is that of the Pedal Trombone Stop, constructed in the Stuart shop. The new casework, displaying basses of the Great Bourdon and Open Diapason, utilizes altered paneling, posts and finials from George S. Hutchings organ, opus 358, of the former Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, Holyoke, Mass. Recycled parts were relocated through the Organ Clearing House, Harrieville, N.H., Alan M. Laufman, director.

Tonally, the organ is designed as a broad spectrum service playing instrument, supportive of congregational singing and choral accompaniment, and capable of convincing performances of most repertoires in both service voluntary and recital usage. Tonal, visual, and mechanical design are by Richard S. Hedgebeth, head of the Stuart Organ Co., Aldenville, Mass., builders of the organ. Assisting in the project were Kenneth Ahlberg, John Albert, Thomas Asher, Joseph Beauvais, David Kozzol, Christopher Lavoie, Randall Steere and Martin Walsh.



Grace Episcopal Church
Amherst, Massachusetts

DEAN

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NEWSLETTER

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WEBSITE

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