

PIPE NOTES

a publication of the Vermont Chapter
of The American Guild of Organists

Dean: David Neiweem, 423 Oak Circle, Colchester, VT 05446
email: david.neiweem@uvm.edu

Newsletter Ed.: Karen R. Miller, 57 Hutchins Farm Rd., E. Hardwick, Vt. 05836-9729
email: vtmillerjk@gmail.com

Vermont AGO Website: <http://vtago.org>
National Website: <http://www.agohq.org>

No. 247

May 2016

VERMONT AGO MAY EVENT--DORIS HUGHES MEMORIAL ORGAN CONCERT

The Doris Hughes Memorial Recital, featuring Vaughn Watson and Jennifer Bower, will be at the First Congregational Church, 27 Church St. in St. Albans on Sunday, May 15 at 3:30 p.m. The program will include works by J. S. Bach, Brewer, Boulander, Buxtehude, Hannahs, Messiaen, Alain, and DuBois. The featured organ is the Hook and Hastings, Boston, Mass. Opus 1567, 1893 organ. It was altered and tonally renovated by Hale and Alexander, of Short Falls, N.H. in 1959.

Doris Hughes had a quiet and deep faith that sustained her all her life, especially through rough times. Music was a special gift that she developed from an early age. She had a wonderful alto voice, excelled at the bassoon, and was an accomplished pianist and accompanist. She attended the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam receiving her BS in Music Education in 1963. Doris essentially taught herself how to play the organ although she had a generous mentor who helped her along the way. She had served six churches since 1981, the last 17 years at the FCC of St. Albans. She was involved in the musical life of many churches since she was a child.

The churches she served as an organist were: Broad Brook (CT) Congregational Church from March 1981 to December 1983; First Congregational Church of East Windsor (CT) from March 1985 to February 1987; Wapping (CT) Community Church (UCC) from March 1987 to August 1989; United Church of Colchester (VT) from February 1990 to June 1996; and First Congregational Church of St. Albans (VT) from March 1997 to September 2014.

She admired the music and organs of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. In June 2014, Doris was given the opportunity to play "Amazing Grace" on the original organ in the Tabernacle. She said playing that organ was, "like cream", and it was a true highlight in her life.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the recital and enjoy the organ and the music. It celebrates the life of a dear, beloved, and long standing member of the Vermont AGO Chapter.

COMING EVENTS

The **North Country Chorus** announces its **spring concert** at the following times and locations:

Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church,
Littleton, NH
Saturday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bradford Congregational Church,
Bradford, VT
Sunday, May 1 at 2:00 p.m. at the North Congregational Church,
St. Johnsbury, VT

This is a collaboration with the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltones. The featured pieces this season will be Franz Schubert's "Mass in G" and "Requiem for the Living" by Dan Forrest. Accompaniment will be provided by VT-AGO member Jan-Piet Knijff and a chamber orchestra. The entire ensemble will be under the direction of Alan Rowe. Tickets are available in advance from Catamount Arts (catamountarts.org): adults \$10, students \$5. Admission at the door will be adults \$12, students \$5. Details are available at northcountrychorus.org. More details about this concert are included in this newsletter.

The next **IVES RECITAL** at the **White Church, Hanover** will be on **Sunday, May 1 at 4 p.m.** New York recitalist and recording artist Gail Archer will play a mixed program of German masters and women composers. This concert is free.

The **Doris Hughes Memorial Organ Recital** will be held on **Sunday, May 15 at 3:30 p.m.** at the **First Congregational Church** in **St. Albans, Vermont**. More details are included at the beginning of this newsletter.

On **June 5 at 3 p.m.** at the **First Baptist Church** in **Burlington, Vermont** new Vermont AGO member **Adam Schneider** will offer a **short organ recital/tour** of the organ chamber. The church is located at 81 St. Paul Street. All are most welcome.

The **Artist-of-the-Year Recital** will be presented by **Susan Summerfield** on **Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m.** at **St. Michael's Chapel**, one Winooski Park, Colchester, Vermont. A Reception and Annual meeting of the Vermont Chapter AGO will follow in the McCarthy Arts Center. A music exchange will also be available. Bring music to share and take some new pieces home with you.

A **silent film program** featuring Ben Model will be presented in the **Congregational Church** on Main Street in **Rupert, Vermont** on **Saturday, June 25 at 3 p.m.** From the Museum of Modern Art in NYC, Ben will play an original score for the films which will be projected on a very large screen in the blacked out sanctuary. The organ is a 1929 Estey with a BIG tremolo. This will be the second such film event at the church. The first was very successful and heavily attended.

CHAPTER NOTES

Congratulations to Miles Ames, our POE candidate to the Springfield POE event in July. He is a very talented young musician with a special love for the organ.

Thank you to Marilyn Polson for her write-up of the recent Newport organ recital included in this newsletter.

Alan Walker's new e-mail address is: alan.gables@comcast.net

VERMONT CHAPTER TO USE ONCARD REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017

The Vermont Chapter has decided to use the ONCARD registration process for new members and renewing members. This process is available online at the www.aqohq.org website. Members without e-mail addresses and members who have indicated they would prefer to pay by check will receive paper invoices from HQ.

Those who have e-mail addresses will receive renewal notices from HQ and since different members have different term expiration dates, the renewals will arrive in a timely fashion. If you have an e-mail address but would prefer to receive a paper invoice, please contact esthernui@gmail.com. Please note as well that the Vermont Chapter will follow the dues supported by the AGO headquarters. Chapter Friends will be directed to printing out the form (a link is available under membership on the website).

To facilitate the ONCARD Registration process, members are encouraged to visit the Vermont Chapter website www.vtaqo.org and click on the heading Membership. This will take you to a web page with information and links to facilitate the renewal and joining process. If you have any questions or run into difficulties please contact Esther Nui at esthernui@gmail.com.

NORTH COUNTRY CHORUS IN CONCERT THIS WEEKEND

North Country Chorus once again welcomes St. Johnsbury Academy's Hilltones as collaborators in its Spring Concert series. The featured pieces this season will be "Mass in G" by Franz Schubert and "Requiem for the Living" composed by Dan Forrest in 2013. Several other short works will be performed by the Hilltones. Ticket information, locations, and times are included in this newsletter under COMING EVENTS.

Schubert wrote in nearly every musical genre during his short life (1797-1828). He and his contemporary Beethoven formed the transition between the Classical and Romantic periods. Schubert composed his "Mass in G" during one week in March 1815 at the age of 18. It consists of six movements and uses the traditional text of the Roman Catholic Mass. Featured soloists in this piece will be soprano Julie Drown, tenor Andrew Lidestri, and baritone Talan Bryant.

Traditionally a Requiem is a prayer for rest for the deceased. Dan Forrest (b. 1978) describes his "Requiem" as "a narrative just as much for the living, and their own struggle with pain and sorrow, as for the dead." Forrest takes some liberties with the traditional Requiem text, replacing the Dies Irae with passages from Ecclesiastes and Job. Solos will be performed by sopranos Julie Drown and Annabelle Hicks and tenor Andrew Lidestri.

For full details visit northcountrychorus.org.

JOHN WEAVER SHOWCASES THE NEWPORT HOOK & HASTINGS ORGAN

John Weaver graced the bench of the 1910 Hook & Hastings organ at the United Church of Newport, Vermont in celebration of the addition of two new stops, a 2 2/3 Nazard and a 1 3/5 Tierce, in completion of the rebuild of the instrument begun in 1999 by the Andover Organ Co. A large crowd heard Dr. Weaver open the program with the Bach "Fantasia in G Minor" (BWV 542).

Dr. Weaver's wife Marianne on flute joined him in three movements from Mendelssohn's several organ sonatas. This was followed by Schumann's "Sketch in F Minor" and Bach's Chorale Prelude on "Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele" (BWV 654). Marianne's flute really shone in the Bach "Flute Sonata in G Minor" (BWV 1031). The two closing pieces were the Reger Chorale Prelude on "Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern" and a rousing rendition of Karg-Elert's monumental setting of "Now Thank We All Our God".

Andover's Bob Newton was in attendance and afterward offered tours of the interior of the organ showing especially the new work that had been done.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the June issue of **Pipe Notes** will be May 20. Be thinking of summer events in your area to share with members and please send them to the newsletter editor soon so that members can mark their calendars and plan on attending these events.

As you make plans to attend some of these organ opportunities, please consider giving some of our elderly members a ride with you. Several have given up driving at night or driving at all. They would welcome your generosity and very much appreciate your offer.