


# PIPE NOTES



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

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## ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 29 IN NORTH THETFORD

This year's annual meeting will be held at the United Church of Thetford in North Thetford, Vermont on Sunday, June 29, 2014 preceded by a recital at 3:00 p.m. on the two-manual Geo. Jardine & Son tracker organ, built in 1874 for the First Presbyterian Church, Blairstown, N.J., and moved to Vermont in 1917. The recital organist will be Permelia Sears assisted by David Sears, organ and piano, and Rebecca Sears, violin. The program features music by Buxtehude, Franck, Alain and others. A music and CD exchange is also planned to allow members to bring music and CDs that they no longer use to share with members and to pick up some different music and CDs for themselves. The annual meeting follows. The plan for the afternoon is:

3:00 p.m.	Organ recital by Permelia Sears, with David and Rebecca Sears.
4:00 p.m.	Break; organ music and CD exchange
4:15 - 5:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting

The white frame United Church is located on U.S. Route 5 between Interstate 91 exits 14 and 15.

## CHAPTER NOTES

Marilyn Polson is keeping her former e-mail address: [polsonm@innevi.com](mailto:polsonm@innevi.com)

There is an Executive Board meeting on Saturday, June 7 at 2:00 p.m. in the Bethany Church Parish house in Randolph. All Executive Board members are encouraged to attend. Your input is very much appreciated in planning directions for our Chapter in the coming year and beyond.

John Wessel, for many years the only organ builder in Vermont, was buried in Brattleboro on April 25, and the private ceremony was attended by his large family. Ed Boadway spoke of his long association with John, both as an employee and fellow traveler to Europe.

Catherine Orr and her husband, Bill, have moved. She writes to us:  
We have moved into a cute, small condo in Montpelier, leaving our wonderful, lovely, big home in Waterbury Center.  
Blessings and grace abound. We are very happy to be here.

New contact info:  
Bill & Catherine Orr  
28 Freedom Drive  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
802-225-6625 (no answering machine yet, sorry)  
802-760-8806 my cell

Sad news...my sister Mary out in California is dying and so I am flying out to be with her and all the family. Please hold her in your hearts.  
love & light  
Catherine

The National AGO Convention will be held this June in Boston, Mass. and Vermont AGO member William Tortolano will be giving a "scholarly" talk at the convention on Thursday, June 26 from 10:15 to 10:40 in Regis, 3rd fl/70. The presentation is entitled Gregorian Chant Roots in the Music of J.S. Bach.

#### COMING EVENTS

**First Baptist Church of Burlington, Vermont** is celebrating the sesquicentennial of its pipe organ, built by E. & G.G. Hook of Boston in 1864 and installed, as opus 342, in the church in October of that year.

Three recitals will mark this milestone for the organ:

June 1 at 4 p.m.	Lynnette Combs
September 7	George Matthew, Jr.
November 2	Susan Summerfield

The **Essex Community Concerts**, in announcing their 2014 season, has included three organ events in their programming. All concerts are at the Essex (NY) Community Church. For more information visit their website:

[www.essexcommunityconcerts.org](http://www.essexcommunityconcerts.org)

July 4 (Fri)	7:30 p.m.	Carol Williams, organist
August 12 (Tues)	7:30 p.m.	Ray Cornils, organist
August 14 (Thur)	11:30 a.m.	Vaughn Watson, organist

## VERMONT ORGAN ENTHUSIAST HARLAND WHITCOMB DIES

Harland Whitcomb, 95, passed away on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at his home. He was a long-time resident of North Springfield, building his own home from the ground up. A member of the North Springfield Baptist Church, he served as treasurer for over 20 years. In 1959 he dismantled an 1858 Wm. A. Johnson organ in the Baptist Church in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts and with the help of church members brought it back to North Springfield where it remains. He was a member of the Yesteryears Car Club and enjoyed building and restoring antique cars including his own 1910 Stanley Steamer that he displayed at many car shows. He also enjoyed giving rides for his friends in the elegant green steamer. The funeral was held at the North Springfield Baptist Church on Saturday, May 3 with Larry Leonard and Marilyn Polson providing the organ music.

## CHURCH ORGANIST POSITION AVAILABLE

The Community Lutheran Church, a liturgical congregation in South Burlington (1560 Williston Road; 802-864-5537), is seeking a church organist for its Johannus organ, model Sweelinck 37, and baby grand piano. The congregation has a great appreciation for organ music. Compensation is commensurate with experience. A full job description is available at their website, <http://:clcv.org>

Search committee chairman is Bob Orr, 92 Northshore Drive, Burlington, Vt. 05408. Phone no. is (802) 489-5026. E-mail is [b.j.orr.vt@gmail.com](mailto:b.j.orr.vt@gmail.com)

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the July issue of **Pipe Notes** will be June 20.

An interesting bit of Vermont organ information ferreted out of historical archives by Ed Boadway.

The first names on a list published in The St. Johnsbury Caledonian, 30 June 1892, are of interest:

## VERMONT MILLIONAIRES.

The New York Tribune has been publishing in its Sunday issue a list of the American millionaires, with a statement of the business in which their fortunes were made, the object being to show whether the great wealth was accumulated in protected or non-protected industries. The Vermont list, contains 13 names, as follows:

Brattleboro--Julius J. Estey (of Estey Organ Company). Manufacturing cabinet organs; real estate and investments.

Levi K. Fuller--(Estey Organ Co.). Manufacturing cabinet organs.