


PIPE NOTES



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

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OCTOBER VERMONT AGO EVENT IS AN ORGAN TOUR IN BARRE, VERMONT

Come visit and hear the pipe organs of the churches of central Barre on Sunday, October 25 starting at 2:30 p.m. and finishing around 5 p.m. The churches, organs and demonstrators are as follows (names of demonstrators are subject to change and some church's own organists may play):

- 2:30 Universalist Church, Berkshire Organ Co., demonstrated by Lynnette Combs and John Atwood
- 3:00 Congregational Church, E. & G.G. Hook & Hastings, demonstrated by Jan-Piet Knijff and Lubbert Gnodde
- 3:30 Hedding United Methodist Church, Hutchings-Votey, demonstrated by Lisa Willems and Karen Miller
- 4:00 First Baptist Church, Hinners Organ Co./Michael Loris, demonstrated by Bruce Stevens and Esther Nui
- 4:30 First Presbyterian Church, Estey Organ Co., demonstrated by Larry Leonard and Marilyn Polson

Descriptions and stoplists of each organ will be available at the beginning of the tour.

DIRECTIONS TO BARRE FOR THE TOUR

From the north or south on I-89, take exit 7 (Berlin) to Vt. Route 62. Continue straight through 2 sets of traffic lights; then take the Barre route (straight ahead) rather than the Montpelier route (bears right). Continue on this road until you approach the bottom of the hill and right turn onto North Main Street (junction of Routes 62, 302, and 14).

Once on Main Street, continue through the city to the next set of lights where you bear right on Route 14 at City Park. Stay in the right lane. At the next set of lights, the large white Universalist Church (the start of the organ tour) will be on your left and post office on your right. At this light, turn right onto Prospect Street and then immediately right onto Merchant's Row to park in city parking behind the Barre Opera House. Walk back to the Universalist Church to start the tour.

From the north (Routes 2 or 14) turn left onto Route 14 in East Montpelier and continue on Route 14 past Hope Cemetery, bearing right down the hill (watch signs carefully to stay on Rt. 14). Stay right until past Summer Street, then move left for the next set of lights (junction of Rt. 302 and 14) to turn left onto North Main Street. Then follow directions above (Once on Main Street...)

From the south on Route 14, stay on this route into the center of Barre until you approach the large white Universalist Church on your right and City Park just beyond. Move to left lane to turn left onto Prospect Street, then immediately turn right onto Merchant's Row for city parking behind the Barre Opera House. Walk back to the Universalist Church to start the tour.

From the east on Route 302 (becomes Washington Street in Barre), stay on this route to the center of Barre with City Park on your left. Move left and at the traffic lights, turn left onto Route 14 South. Move to right lane. At next set of lights (Universalist Church will be on your left and post office on your right) turn right onto Prospect Street and then immediately right onto Merchant's Row for city parking behind the Barre Opera House. Walk back to the Universalist Church to start the tour.

Note: The Presbyterian Church on Seminary Street is about a three-block walk along Main Street from the Baptist Church or you could drive it.

NOVEMBER VERMONT AGO EVENT

Karl Moyer will present a workshop on hymn styles and how to play them at the First Congregational Church in Burlington on Saturday, November 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

SPRING VERMONT AGO EVENTS IN THE PLANNING

April: A "Getting-to-Know-You" gathering

May 15, 2015: Doris Hughes Memorial Recital, the First Congregational Church
of St. Albans

June 2016, Date to be determined: Susan Summerfield's Artist-of-the-Year
Recital

July 2016, Date to be determined: Theater organ-style recital at the
Congregational Church in Rupert

COMING EVENTS

The **Annual Katharine Dopp Organ Recital** will be **Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 4 p.m.** at the **First Baptist Church, Burlington, Vermont**. The church is located at 81 St. Paul Street. Parking garages, lots, and on-street parking are within walking distance. George Bozeman will be this year's artist, with a program including J. S. Bach, Sweelinck, Frescobaldi, and others. The instrument is the 151 year-old E. & G.G. Hook (Op. 342). The recital is free, but donations are welcome, in support of the series. Refreshments will follow, with a chance to meet the organist.

There will be an **organ recital** by Hans U. Hielscher presented in two Vermont locations the weekend of **October 10 and 11:**

October 10	Trinity Church, Rutland	3 p.m.
October 11	St. Andrew's Church, St. Johnsbury	2 p.m.

Hans Hielscher is a German organist and composer, the organist and carillonneur at the Marktkirche in Wiesbaden from 1979. He has created a series of weekly free organ recitals and has appeared in a regular concert on New Year's Eve together with his colleague at St. Bonifatius, Gabriel Dessauer until 2010. In 1985 he worked at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles in exchange with Samuel Swartz, and he has been teaching at the University of Redlands in California since 1986. He is active as a concert organist and has played more than 2500 organ concerts worldwide.

The **Katrina Munn Organ Recital** at the **Bradford United Church of Christ** will be performed by **Lynnette Combs** on **Sunday, November 1 at 4:00 p.m.** The church is the large Victorian building in the center of town with prominent steeple clock. More information about the artist and the organ series are included in this newsletter.

CHAPTER NEWS

Recently John Weaver with his model railroad was featured on WCAX, Channel 3. He also played his reed organ.

A restored two-manual 1913 Estey reed organ has been installed in the Community Church, Brownsville, Vt., by Ed Boadway. The Pastor is Christian Huebner, whom the Chapter sponsored through the Norris Fund a few years ago. He has a Master's in organ performance and serves two churches. The Estey replaces a worn-out Hammond "organ," and will be dedicated in a program at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, October 18.

The two-manual 1875 Steer & Turner organ in the home of our late member Charles P. Barrows of Glover, Vt., has been given to A. David Moore. Hopefully, it will eventually be restored for some lucky church! Ed Boadway has received Charlie's organ music for distribution.

Our Chapter mourns the loss of three members, past members, and avid organ enthusiasts this summer: James Gabaree, John Perry-Hooker, and John David Stager. We extend our heart-felt sympathies to all their family and friends. They will be sorely missed. An obituary for each is included in this newsletter.

LYNNETTE COMBS IS THE ARTIST FOR THE ANNUAL BRADFORD KATRINA MUNN ORGAN RECITAL

Lynnette Combs is a well-known musician in Vermont. She is currently organist/choirmaster at Christ Episcopal Church in Montpelier, Vermont where she also resides. She received a degree in music from Swarthmore College, where she studied organ with Robert Smart. After further studies in organ performance with Nancy Ludwig Shearer, she was organist in several churches in Kentucky and Vermont before taking the position at Christ Church. In 2001 she was named Artist-of-the-Year by the Vermont Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. In 2013 she was a recitalist for the national convention of the Organ Historical Society. She often has served as accompanist for choruses and soloists and as a harpsichordist with orchestras and other ensembles. Ms. Combs has given solo recitals throughout Vermont, and she hopes to have performed in at least 100 Vermont towns by the year 2025. She has three grown children and enjoys libraries, handwoven textiles, and gardening.

The Katrina Munn Recital is an annual event funded by the legacy of Katrina Munn, a long-time music director to the Bradford United Church of Christ. The recital is free to the public, although freewill donations are gratefully received. The featured instrument is a two-manual and pedal tracker organ by Steven Russell in its most recent reincarnation of 21 speaking stops with the Great Trumpet duplexed to the pedal.

DEACCESSIONED INSTRUMENTS AND PARTS OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC

Over the years the Estey Organ Museum in Brattleboro, VT has received a number of reed organs which are no longer needed for the museum's permanent collection. As a way to free up storage space as well as pass some of these instruments on to those who would have a use for them, the museum is holding a Reed Organ Re-Homing Weekend on October 24 & 25 at the museum, 108 Birge Street, Brattleboro, VT.

These instruments range in condition from just dusty to requiring complete re-building or re-purposing. Also available are parts for reed organs, pipe organs, and early electronic organs.

The Estey Organ Museum was founded to celebrate the work of the Estey Organ Company which, over a period of 110 years, manufactured over 520,000 reed organs, 3200 pipe organs, and, in its final years, even electronic organs. Reed organ manufacture began in Brattleboro in 1846 when 2 brothers, Joseph and Samuel Jones arrived and set up their business in rented shop space. In 1853 local businessman and entrepreneur Jacob Estey bought out the Jones brothers' business, and the rest is history. Inventive geniuses Levi Fuller and William Haskell contributed their skills to the company's success.

Questions about the event may be directed to Philip Stimmel, Managing Director of the Estey Organ Museum, (802) 246-8366 or info@esteyorganmuseum.com.

FREE CHOIR ROBES AVAILABLE

Free-15 Adult Choir Robes in various sizes. Ivory with blue trim and in good shape. Guaranteed to give the choir perfect pitch with just a couple of wearings. I would suggest you snap these babies up and quick!

Kevin Bishop, Rupert VT UMC (802) 362-4160 or kjbish@hotmail.com
I will be happy to bring them to the next VT guild function.

ORGAN POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The First Baptist Church (ABC-USA) in Burlington, Vt. is seeking a new organist to play the historic tracker (E. & G.G. Hook Op. 364, 1864). The position remains open. The organist plays the Sunday service year round, special services, and accompanies the adult Chancel Choir from Labor Day through mid-June and occasionally other musical ensembles, as needed. Salary is negotiable based on experience. 4 weeks paid vacation are provided. Dr. Dawn Willis is Director of Music and Chancel Choir Director. The church enthusiastically supports an active music program encompassing Children's Choir, Instrumental Ensemble, Handbell Ensemble, annual guest organ recital and hosts outside musical groups. Inquiries and applications should go to Bob Cannon, Music Committee Co-Chair at (802) 879-4515 or rycannon@comcast.net.

The Newport, Vt. United Church of Christ is looking for an organist to play on Sunday mornings with active senior choir and miscellaneous church events. Beautiful pipe organ, regularly serviced, as well as Yamaha grand piano. Please contact the church at (802) 334-6033.

The Glover/West Glover churches are needing an organist or pianist. They would happily consider a young person with keyboard skills but little or no church experience for a one-hour service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please call Sharon Townsend at (802) 525-3183 or e-mail her at townsendsharon201@gmail.com.

JAMES GABAREE

James Gabaree, 61, of Duxbury passed away unexpectedly on June 8, 2015. He graduated from Mt. Mansfield Union High School in 1972. He worked at several different enterprises: Twincraft in Winooski, the Hinesburg Cheese Factory, and lastly the Thatcher Brook Primary School from which he retired. Jim had a love for antiques, organs, and pianos, and he restored many of them. His home was filled with a wide variety of keyboard instruments, and he loved to play the pipe organ on Sunday mornings. A celebration of his life was held at the home of Bryon Gabaree. Jim requested that any donations go to the Richmond Historical Society for the purpose of pipe organ maintenance and conservation at the Richmond Round Church. He truly loved the pipe organ and was an enthusiastic member of the Vermont AGO Chapter for many years.

JOHN PERRY-HOOKER

John Perry-Hooker, age 92, of Newbury, Vermont passed away on August 7, 2015 at the Cottage Hospital in Woodsville, New Hampshire. Born in Wells River, he was a lover of education earning several degrees in the course of his lifetime. He graduated from UVM with a B.S. in Chemistry in 1944 and a degree in medicine in 1947. From UVM he entered the Army and served in WWII from '43 to '46, earning several service medals and awards. He returned to Wells River and went into practice with his grandfather from '52 to '53. He worked as a General Practitioner from 1953 to 1962 in Wells River. John then returned to school to earn a degree in Psychiatry followed by a 2 year residency at Medfield Mass. State Hospital and a 2 year residency in Forensic Psychiatry at Law-Medicine Institute. He practiced in Boston, in various capacities, with the Court Clinic Program, out-patient clinics and through consulting. He married in July of 1960, then attended Divinity School and seminary, with ordination as Bishop in the Anglican Church of America.

Following the end of his marriage, he returned to the Vermont home that he bought and renovated at Doe Corner, Newbury. He pursued a love of stamp collecting, attended weekly auctions in New England (especially in Vt. Maine, and N.H.), and belonged to several stamp clubs and philatelic societies. He served as organist for several churches, including his favorite church, the Church of the Epiphany, Lisbon, N.H., for over 50 years. He was a member of the Vermont AGO Chapter for over 60 years and served in several positions in the Chapter. He held services at Doe Corner for many years. He was a past member of several historical and genealogical societies. A service was held August 29 at the Church of the Epiphany Episcopal Church in Lisbon, with memorial contributions going to the Oxbow Veterinary Clinic in Bradford. The Vermont AGO Chapter mourns his passing and extends sympathies to his five children, one brother, and three sisters.

JOHN DAVID STAGER

John David Stager passed away in Wells Vermont on August 24, 2015 from a rare cancer which finally took his life. Originally from Chicago, he began piano lessons when he was ten, followed later by organ instruction that began his lifelong interest in music, particularly church music, since church membership was always influential in his life. He attended Western Maryland College, graduating in 1965 with a B.A., majoring in organ. While studying there he was organist at an Episcopal church in Westminster, MD. He worked as a teacher for the blind, then for the Massachusetts Department of Education, eventually becoming the Director of Program Quality Assurance Services. He earned a Master's degree in Educational Administration.

During his early working years he studied with various noted organists. In Massachusetts he worked as a church organist and choir director for several years, first in Littleton and then in Northborough. Later he was one of the musical "spare parts" in the Grafton Congregational Church, where he and family were members for many years. He was a lifelong church choir member. Retiring in 2006, he and his wife Susan moved to Wells, Vermont to begin a new chapter with their daughter and her family. They became active members of Grace Congregational Church in Rutland, Vermont, and John served on the Nominating Committee and in other roles, as well as acting occasionally as an organist there. He was beloved by all who knew him.

REED ORGANS FOR SALE

Evan Smith has sold the Estey Cottage Organ advertised last month. He still has the Estey Parlor Reed Organ for sale. It is located in the Burlington area and available at "Best Offer" prices. Please contact Evan Smith at ejsmith@myfairpoint.net or call him at (802) 864-6119.

Estey Parlor Reed Organ
 Circa 1900
 Oak
 Nice beveled mirror
 Fair original condition

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November issue of **Pipe Notes** will be October 20.

